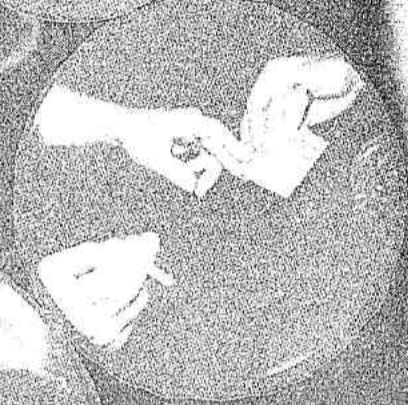
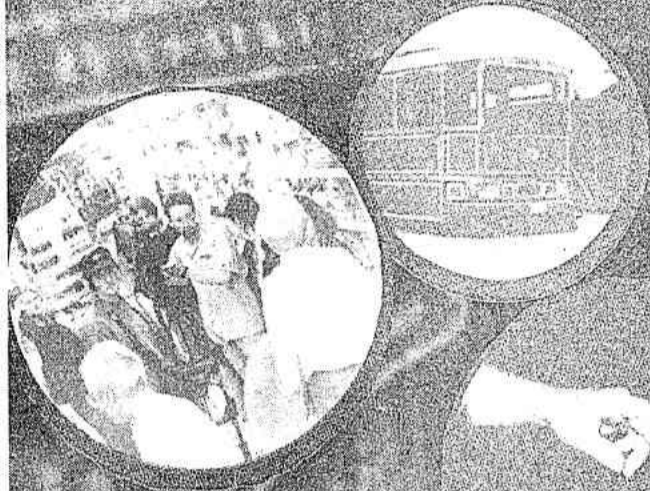


WORONI

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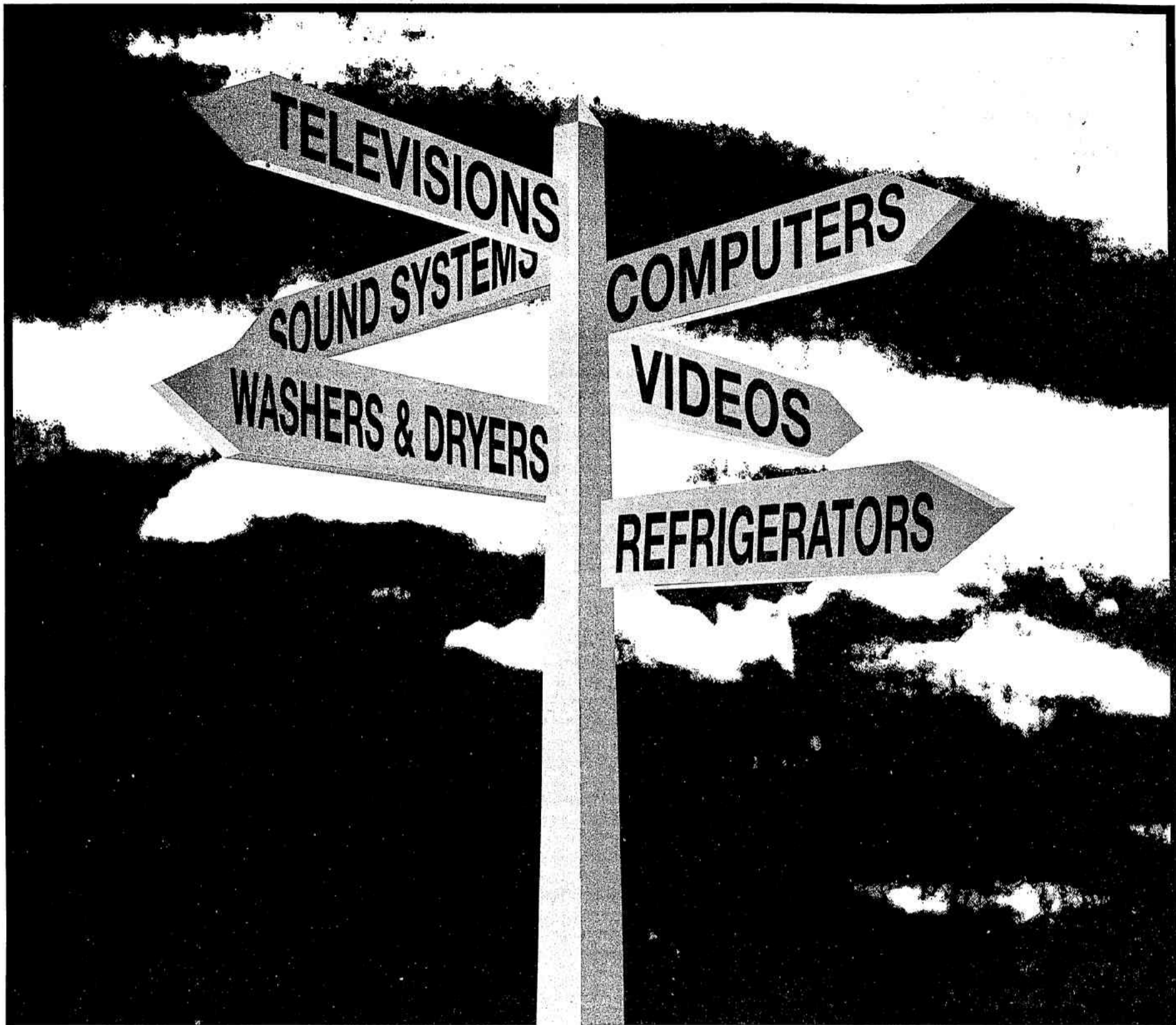


O-Week

Drugs

Freaks

James Valentine



WAY TO GO!

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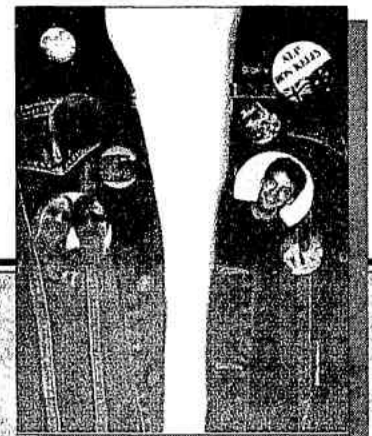
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what's the deal?

12 One student gives his perspective on the drug scene on campus — from unibar drug deals to college marijuana plantations to first year drug abuse.

where the streets have no fences

16 Kooky **BRENDAN SHANAHAN** takes you on his own magical mystery tour of the Nation's capital.

a matter of degree

18 Is your Arts degree a waste of time? If you choose to do Law, are you destined to become a boring, pretentious prat? **EMILY ROBERTSON** investigates.

COVER: Inspired by the album cover of Smash Hits '87, we created our O-Week cover look using some old badges, a white T-Shirt, and Brendan's little brother's denim jacket.
Photo: James Painter

WORONI

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FIRST UP

if they move too

freak of the week



It is a tragic fact that many young lives have been marred by the cruel, prying eyes of strangers.

Woroni has decided in the political correctness of the 90s, it is well due to reward the deformed, not condemn them.

Do you sport a superfluous third nipple? Did your Gran serve you agent orange juice with your cereal? Was your father part of the cast of *Deliverance*? Or do you simply have webbed toes? Now is the time to come forth and be proud of who you truly are. The owner of the most impressive genetic defect will be rewarded with two free tickets to a uni bar concert. Simply present yourself, or a photograph, to the Woroni office, together with a contact number.

celebrity parents

Canberra is well-known as the home of politicians, public servants and weird phallic monuments, but fewer people realise that within its desperately grafitted borders resides a wealth of near-celebrity experience just waiting to be explored.

It's a fact that Canberra is the celebrity parent capital of Australia.

Now *Woroni* tackles the vital task of unveiling the greatness hidden in our midst with our quest to find Canberra's celebrity parents.

Perhaps the most well-known celebrity parents in Canberra

are those of the Red Hot Chili Pepper's bass player, Flea. Rumour has long held that Mr and Mrs Flea have a house on our very own south coast.

Others say they live in a small house in outer Tuggeranong. Is this true? Does anyone know where? Between 6,000

undergraduates, somebody's gotta know something. Drop your clues into the *Woroni* office or phone in your sightings on 248 7127, and we'll piece them together in true paparazzi style. Most useful clue wins two free tickets to a uni bar concert.

Monday

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FEBRUARY

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It doesn't matter if you're a/A or f/f, until you're
— Mike Pinedakis

1997

Calendar

February

- 6 'Obsession: Works on paper and Sculpture from the Chandler Coventry Collection' including works by Picasso, Matisse, Degas and Australian artists such as Whitely and Nolan. ANU Drill Hall Gallery until March 9
- 7 National Summer Shakespeare Festival 'The Tempest' Aspen Island Until March 1
- 19 Jenny Allen: Surfaces and Still Life', Alba Salsone Interiors and Still Life' Spiral Arm Gallery. Until 2 March
- 24 O-Week — Students association programme and ANU official programme

March

- 1 Australian Chamber Orchestra and the Stockholm Bach Choir perform Handel's *Messiah* Llewellyn Hall 8pm
- 2 Arlene Chan, author of 'The Last Time I Saw Mother' reads from her works ground floor National Library 3-4pm
- 6 "Pamela Dooneen Lecture" for International Women's Day — Christine Milne (leader of the Tasmanian Greens): Making the Difference. Huxley Lecture Theatre Mills Road (near JCSMR). Free entry
- 7 Funky Acid Afro Lounge Dance Party at Uni Bar
- 8 Canberra Festival until 17 March
- 8 International Women's Day: March, City Walk; 'Splash Out' and WIREDD Women's Health Fair, Civic Pool 9am

Tim Wood plays a creepy Caliban in the National Sumespeare production of *The Tempest*



What's On in Canberra

Diary of a Dwarf

Diary of a Dwarf tells the story of Ironmonger; inventor of games, diarist, schizophrenic dwarf and recent inmate of the local asylum. To recuperate from profound depression, Ironmonger moves into the house of Guttman, embittered invalid and the husband of the beautiful Christina. Ironmonger's predicament shows us the human condition at its most exciting, hilarious and tragic. The play uses atmospheric devices such as shadow puppetry, audio visual projections and animation to create a "vivid tapestry of strong images". Written by Graham Henderson, directed by David Branson and performed by Stephen Howard, Louise Morris and Tim Wood. On at the Street Theatre from 7-9 March and 11-15 March as part of the 1997 Canberra Festival. Bookings through Ticketek: 248 7666.

National Summer Shakespeare

The National Summer Shakespeare Festival returns for its third season this year with *The Tempest*. Twilight performances are held at Aspen Island 8 pm, Tuesdays to Sundays. The Festival invites you to bring picnic baskets and rugs to watch the play. Both new and established Canberra performers such as: Richard Anderson as Sebastian; Liz Bradley as Gonzalo; Bronwen Gault as Miranda; Phil Roberts



Stephen Howard in *Diary of a Dwarf* at The Street Theatre

as Prospero; Jason Savage as Alonso; Scott Agius as Ferdinand and Tim Wood as Caliban. Music is by percussionist and theatre composer Ian McDonald and dramaturgy is by Alanna McLean. Direction is by Nicholas Bolonkin. The Summer Shakespeare Festival is a local initiative by Nicholas Bolonkin, founder of The Looking Glass Theatre company. Tickets from Canberra Ticketing on (06) 257 1077 tickets are \$20, concessions \$15. Group packages are available.

Intaglio

Intaglio means "engraved design, below the surface". The play is a surreal look at Canberra. It is about a young public servant who arrives in Canberra and takes an Alice in Wonderland type adventure through a mad and

unpredictable city. The show paints a very different picture of the pristine, structured and predictable society which is Canberra. The production is a multi-media work involving music, poetry and media. It is directed by Lynette Wallis and written by Hal Judge. Student rush tickets are being offered — present your student card within the 30 minutes before show time and your ticket will cost you only \$6. ANU Arts Centre March 7-14. Show times are at 11 am on 7 March and March 10-14. 8pm shows are being held from March 11-14.

Obsession

Obsession: Works on Paper and Sculpture from the Chandler Coventry Collection Drill Hall Gallery 6 Feb-9 March. Chandler Coventry is one of Australia's best known patrons of the arts and collectors

Woroni salutes



Adriana Xenides

It is a little known fact that the most stressful contemporary occupation is that of the game show hostess. It may appear to be all glitter and simple alphabetical duties, but the devastating personal struggle of *Wheel of Fortune's* Adriana Xenides has proved to the world that Tony Barber really is as annoying to her as he is to us. In a frank and disturbing recent interview with *The Australian Women's Weekly* Adriana said "I was so desperate, I resigned!" Although her duties on the *Wheel* played a major part in her illness, it was not just the gruelling hours (well, half hour) of turning the letters when they light up that was responsible for her collapse. The inexplicable removal of her friend and fashion consultant, John Burgess, and his subsequent replacement by Tony Barber can be singled as the turning point in Adriana's health.

"I also felt very alone," Adriana said, "because unless someone has been through this, you can't understand what it's like". The exact nature of Adriana's condition remains unknown. Although commonly accepted as Post-Burgess Stress Disorder, a condition that has affected many avid *Wheel* watchers Australia wide, a new theory is gaining in popularity. Barberism, a condition that directly affects the operation of the brain, may well be the cause of Adriana's unexplained illness.

We can only hope that Adriana's condition passes. In the mean time, Adriana, *Woroni* salutes you.

found in Matt Goss's stomach: 7

Celebrity look-alikes

Hey! Do you look like someone famous? Do you or your drunken friends think you're the spitting image of a celebrity? Or are you just desperate to win free tickets to the concert of your choice at the uni bar? Give us a photo of yourself and a famous

person looking eerily similar and you can WIN! Here's one we prepared earlier — we think the resemblance between *Woroni's* office manager Matt Darke and the SA president Matt Tinning is unmistakable. You be the judge.



Matt Tinning



Matt Darke

of Australian and the International art. He began his extensive collection in 1949 at the age of 15 with the purchase of a painting by Sidney Nolan. Since then he has acquired numerous works of art by major Australian and international artists.

The exhibition provides the opportunity to view a selection of works on paper by many well known international artists including Picasso, Matisse, Degas, Christo, Hockney and Munch. Contemporary Australian artists are also well represented in the exhibition including Nolan, Blackman, Whitely, Friend, Counihan, Tucker, Tomescu, Gazzard and McPherson. The exhibition has been curated by Chandler Coventry and Sioux Garside and will be on view at the Drill Hall Gallery until 9 March. The Drill Hall Gallery is open Wednesday to Sunday from 12pm to 5pm.

SWOT

Students With Over Indulgent Tendencies is the name of the band night on the Friday night of O-Week. Three of Canberra's finest bands, Birdseed, Velveteen and '78 Saab return to ANU to rock your scholarly socks and kick off the university year in style. In between sets there will be a crew of groovy DJs and MC David Branson will tie the night together with competitions, giveaways and prizes. To top it all off there will be an after-show party at Heaven.

Canberra Festival

The Canberra Festival kicks off on March 8 and goes until March 17. During that time you can catch up with many great events on as part of the festival or simply sit back and wait for the hot air balloons to float by. Here are just a few:

Friday 7 March–Sunday 9 March Mountain Bike Stage Race presented by AIS Mountain Bike Cycling

Saturday 8 March–Sunday 9 March Dragon Boat Racing, Canberra Yacht Club foreshore

Sunday 9 March 8pm Skyfire, Lake Burley Griffin; fireworks display in sync with FM 104.7

Sunday 9 March Town v Gown Cricket Match South Oval ANU 10am-5pm

Tuesday 11 March–Friday 14 March Movies by Moonlight, Senate Gardens of Old Parliament House; Australian short-films

Sunday 16 March Food and Wine Frolic, Commonwealth Park; gourmet food, wine and music

Friday 7 March–Saturday 15 March Intaglio, ANU Arts Centre

Friday 7 March–Saturday 15 March Diary of a Dwarf, the Street Theatre

Saturday 15 March Songs of Fire, Lake Foreshore in front of Old

Parliament House; Musical spectacular featuring mass choir, orchestra, dancers and fire.

International Women's Day

Saturday 8 March 9am–6pm Community radio 2XX invites you to SPLASH OUT at Civic Pool, Alinga St — a day long festival of women's music, dance, art, discussion, storytelling and wet,

physical fun. There will be workshops in self defence, body building, Tai Chi, belly dancing, board diving, safe sex, line dancing, and underwater hockey. There will also be a live radio broadcast by 2XX, afternoon concerts, and the WIREDD Women's Health Fair.

Standard pool admission price will be charged (\$3 or \$1.50 con). Call 2XX on 249 4512 for more details.



Birdseed — one of the three bands playing at SWOT on the Friday of O-Week

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this issue's song lyrics: "WALK LIKE AN EGYPTIAN" WRITTEN BY L. STERNBERG, PERFORMED BY THE BANGLES

woroni is the official publication of the Australian National University students' association. The opinions expressed in *woroni* are not necessarily those of the editors, students' association, or *woroni* staff.

deadline for next issue: March 6

“Wadgate” scandal investigated

By Helen Drew

A REPORT INTO the so called ‘Wadgate’ affair which took place at last year’s SA elections was released on February 5. The report, written by 1996 SA President William Mackerras, recommends a fine of \$846 to be imposed on Daniel Jenkins, the 1996 Treasurer of the Students’ Association, under the Students Association Electoral Regulations. No other fines were recommended.

Jenkins is the alleged organiser of the scheme which saw 146 extra voting papers, rolled together in suspicious-looking wads, placed in the presidential ballot box. The papers were all endorsed for the ‘Rage’ presidential candidate, Daniel Jenkins. The votes were later excluded from the count by the Returning Officer.

Had the votes been counted they would still have had no impact on the actual results of the Presidential election, which was easily won by ‘Counterattack’ candidate, Matt

Tinning. However, the matter resulted in a complaint by three scrutineers who requested an investigation. Originally the inquiry was sought in the hope that the University would take disciplinary action against those found to be involved. However the University preferred the SA to make their findings before considering the issue.

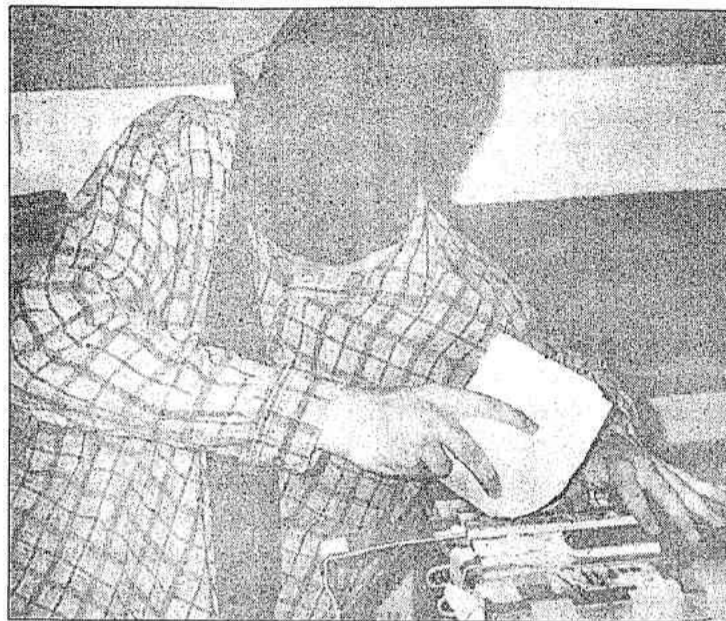
With the release of the report the onus is now on the University to decide what action should be taken. ANU Registrar, Bob Arthur was quoted in *The Canberra Times* on February 5 as saying that “the university was examining the report and ‘would take the matter extremely seriously’ but had not yet decided what action would be appropriate”.

William Mackerras’s report also recommends that in future the SA will consider contracting the running of the election to the Electoral Commission (a procedure which is currently used by the Union’s Board

of Directors). This would ensure that in the future the SA ‘would have no control over who was employed to sit at the table to distribute ballot papers and cross names off the roll’.

Students who had been employed to work on the electoral polls by Mr Jenkins, who was at that time Treasurer of the SA, had not all received cross party approval. The signatures of two polling officers were found on all the disputed papers. The report says that although it is ‘impossible to avoid the conclusion that at least one of [the polling officers] was involved’ there is little evidence to implicate the two officers whose signatures were on the ballots. These officers claim that the signatures were forgeries — a view which the report does not totally dismiss.

The matter has taken a new twist, with Tasmanian Liberal Senator Eric Abetz who first brought the subject up as a matter of public interest in the Senate in October, pursuing the issue again on 5 February. Senator



(above) Dramatic re-enactment of the “Wadgate” incident

Abetz used his first speech to attack Labor on the subject of alleged corruption within the Labour Party and compulsory Student Association membership. In the Senate in February he commended William Mackerras’s report, even though he noted that it had been a situation of Labor (ie. William Mackerras) investigating Labor. He was concerned that no other people apart from Daniel Jenkins had been fined, although there were obviously others involved in the matter. Senator Abetz called on the University to ‘under-

take a full-scale investigation and bring to justice all those who were involved in this terrible scam’.

Daniel Jenkins has distanced himself from the ANU Labor Club by forming his own party called the ALP club. He has told SA President Matt Tinning that he will prepare a written response to Mackerras’s report which will demonstrate his innocence. Matt Tinning has endorsed Mackerras’s report as ‘thorough and fair’ and encouraged the University to conduct its own enquiry into the matter.



Stuffing optional in Undie Run

A HUGE TURNOUT is expected for the annual undie run to be held on Wednesday February 26 at 12.30pm. Organised by the ANU Cycling and Triathlon Club, the undie run aims to help promote the goals of the club: sport in a friendly, fun environment. The event requires participants to complete a 1km circuit of the campus, in one item of clothing for males and two items for females—shoes not included. Participants can register in Union Court on the day by paying \$2 to the Club’s stall and this also entitles them to membership of the Undie Run Soci-

ety. Lucrative prizes are on offer for the first male and female competitors to finish as well as many lucky draw prizes. Awards for the most scantily dressed male and female competitors will also be presented. Undie run organiser, Julia Graczyk said that whilst bare bottoms are not encouraged, the stuffing of undies is optional. For more information phone Julia Graczyk on 249 7186.

—MAGGIE KAUFFMAN

(above and right) Triathlon Clubbers Valerie Tam and Wayne Gagel show off their sleek underwear and running styles



College food goes off

RECENT CHANGES to the structure and management of Bruce and Burton and Garran Halls has led to speculation that the two colleges are set to fully amalgamate.

Within the last year, Burton and Garran Hall has seen a kitchen refurbishment of dramatic proportions, a new lock system installed and the appointment of a new Warden as well as more uncertainty involving the position of the deputy warden.

Bruce Hall restructuring has taken the form of a change in the amount of rent payable and the provision of meals. The current weekly rate of \$148, down from \$190, is due to the abandonment of the provision of weekday lunches and weekend meals. These meal can be purchased from the hall when needed but are not included in the weekly rental fee.

Bruce Hall warden Gill Burke commented that students don’t always attend all meal times and that it may be more economical for both the hall and students if there were a bit more flexibility in the programming of meal times. Ms Burke was also of the opinion that the Hall would be able to provide “more exciting food” which could sound like good news to seasoned residents who know all too well that there is no real choice but to take whatever

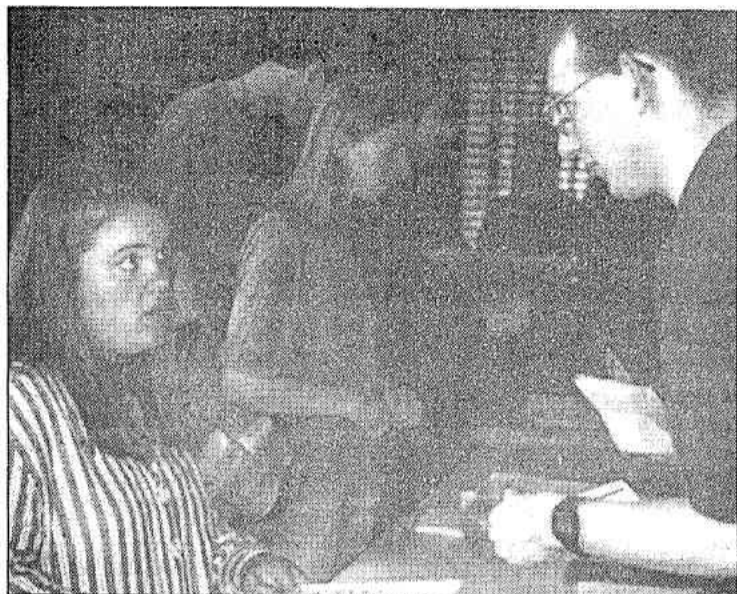
is offered. It was suggested that with the new arrangement, more buffet style meals would be available as the general method of presentation.

Concerning the question of amalgamation with Burton and Garran Hall, Ms Burke commented that the decision was ultimately the University’s. She added that there was a general trend towards streamlining the two colleges after recommendations made by a

consultant last year in relation to work performance appraisal of staff at all levels within the Halls. Ms Burke could not comment on the organisation of management within the Halls if there were such an amalgamation. She was, however, of the opinion that colleges needed to be dynamic organisations and responsive to the student market.

Ms Burke was “very pleased” with the response of applications for residence to Bruce Hall for the coming academic year, even though applications were down. The need to have a “full house” in order to make the college atmosphere a thriving and healthy one, was appreciated by Mrs Burke, and is a major issue among all the colleges at this time of year. Perhaps an amalgamation would go some way to alleviating this pressure for more numbers.

—MICHAEL BUCKLEY



First year students were impressed with the speed and efficiency of the ANU Administration

Enrollin', rollin', rollin'

FIRST YEAR ENROLMENT took place between the 29 and 31st January, and *Woroni* took the opportunity to chat to some of the ANU's new students.

Most of the first years we spoke to were not too concerned about increased HECS. They were looking forward to coming to ANU and or moving out of home.

The ANU released a press statement on February 6th, indicating that preliminary acceptance offers

for courses at ANU were slightly up on previous years. The cut off mark for Arts, Asian Studies, Economics, IT and Science was 60. The TERs required for other courses were: Law 90, Engineering 84, Economics (Actuarial) 80, Asian Studies (specialist) 70. The University says it maintained 'cut off scores at the same level as the last two years, despite many other universities dropping their cut offs'.

report

No more free paper

A NUMBER OF CHANGES have been proposed to the current IT service at ANU due to the expense of providing current services. The bill for internet access last year was over \$800 000, and the University doesn't have much money spare.

Paper won't be supplied directly to labs this year. In real terms this means that you must have printer paper with you whenever you turn up at a lab hoping to print something out. The Students' Association has been trying to find a way to ensure paper is available cheaply but the best we can currently do is to point out that Dickson Woollies is currently having an excellent "back-to-school" special — 500 sheets at \$5.

Use of the facilities at ANU is not without some restrictions. A list of the rules and penalties can be found on the internet (<http://coorong.anu.edu.au/StudentServices/etiquette.shtml>). Not many people read them, but this should not be a problem as these rules are plain common sense. Don't view pornographic material. Don't use the facilities for personal financial gain —

ie dodgy e-mail pyramid schemes are strictly forbidden. Don't deliberately offend or harass people either through the net or in the lab. When other people need to do real work don't hog the computer to check e-mail or web-surf. And don't steal the computers.

The ANU has a pretty cool set up in regard to computer technology and if you get through your university education without utilising these facilities you have really wasted your HECS. All students here have access to an e-mail account and to a huge number of research services including the web.

Heaps of info about access will be provided during O-Week, and some introductory courses may be held in the first weeks of the term. General info is provided throughout the campus on computer lab notice boards and via the new info desk on the ground floor of the Chifley Library. This service will be available in the afternoon and evenings and will replace the student consultation service which was available on the second floor last year.

—SIMON QUARTERMAINE

bits in brief

Funding for the ANU's Austudy officer has been cut by DEETYA. The officer, who was to have commenced work in the weeks before O-week will no longer be available at the ANU. Students can visit the Austudy Officer at UCAN or make the trip out to the Weston Offices to take on the Austudy Administration hurdy gurdy.

ANU SUCCESS AT WORLD DEBATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

A team of debaters representing the ANU met with success at the recent World Debating Championships, held in South Africa in January, making it through to the quarter finals of the competition. Nearly 300 teams from around the world entered the competition. The ANU Debating Society sent three teams, all of which performed well. The two members of the ANU team which made the finals, Matt Sag and Kevin Boreham were both delighted with their performance which equalled that of any other Australian University. All of the debaters said that they had enjoyed the experience and had learnt valuable lessons through attending the championships. The next World Championships will be held in Greece in one year's time.

MURAL IDEA

Some ANU students are keen to make the area around the sports union/uni bar a little more spectacular. They want to paint a mural on the end of the Sports Union. Their plan has been tentatively accepted by university administration pending approval of a design. All artists keen to leave their mark on the ANU can submit a design for consideration in specially marked boxes in the uni bar or the School of Art. The works can take any form (but probably need to fit in the boxes provided) and need to reflect the aims and atmosphere of the university and its students. Volunteers will be needed to contribute labour and painting skills to the project. The group is also keen to attract sponsorship for such items as paint and scaffolding. For more information contact Ben Paton on 251 4084.

THE SWEAT BOX

Recent visitors to the *Woroni* office have been surprised by the incredible heat there. Ever since the wall went in down the middle of the old and larger office, temperatures have soared. The office now has the happy atmosphere of a sauna. The editors are pleased with their weight loss and are contemplating operating a health spa from the SA. SA President Matt Tinning has agreed to donate his skills in swedish massage to the cause.

Nappy changing in the Students Association

THE RELOCATION OF the SA bookshop into a third of the current *Woroni* office is to make way for a new parenting room. To be available for use by students with babies and young children, it was initiated by the on-campus parenting group in 1996 as a reaction to the lack of cen-

tral and adequate places to change children and nurse babies.

The space represents a compromise between the Union and the SA. It is partly funded by the ANU Union and the SA has provided the room and planning. Ex-SA president, William Mackerras says the Union

will provide the sink for the room whilst the couch, fridge and table will be provided by the SA.

Although the room should have been in place by late December 1996, it is now hoped that it will be finished before the start of term. Access to the room will require a

door code, and hopefully this will mean that it will be accessible during longer hours. Mr Mackerras says that in some respects it is frustrating having the room in the SA area, but that, ultimately, it was the only solution.

—MICHAEL BUCKLEY

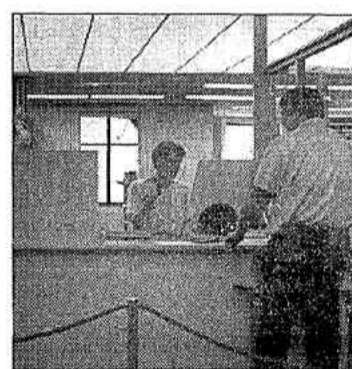
Library facelift

Changes are afoot in the Chifley Building of the ANU Library. Next time you wander into Chifley you'll notice that the way you enter was once the way that you went out. Gone is the long sprint down to the short loans section. Instead a short walk will suffice in order to reach the new reserve section just inside the door. It is located adjacent to the new loans desk for one stop borrowing and returning.

Why all these changes? According to Chifley Manager of Lending Services, May Priddle, it is in the name of better service to students and more efficient use of staff and space.

In line with the efficiency sweeping Chifley is the instigation of a separate returns area. According to May it will hopefully reduce the incidence of 'But I'm sure I returned it' borrowing incidents. The library will also introduce self-serve borrowing later this year.

To provide further help for students a computer consulting area will be provided on the ground floor. 'Infoplace', a service run by the li-



A borrower tries out the stylish new loans desk at Chifley Library

brary in conjunction with IT Services, will help students with all areas of computer use, from email to wordprocessing.

During O-Week the library will be running a series of 'Explore the Library' workshops for first years in Manning Clark Theatre 3. Ros Goodwin, Manager of Outreach services says that this year the library will be offering comprehensive courses in library familiarisation. Everything from decorous behaviour in the computer rooms, to finding your books, will be covered.

— HELEN DREW

2XX Splash Out & W.I.R.E.D.D. Women's Health Fair

International Women's Day 1997
Saturday 8 March Civic Pool 9am

Festival of Women's Music & Dance
Information Fair & Health Market
The Bread & Roses Relay Race
Water Sports & Body Work
College School Art Competition

On site childcare, Booking's Required
Ph:(06)2488600

Regular pool entry fee
Adults \$3.00 concession \$1.50, U5's Free
Food & Refreshments Available

Broadcast live to air 2xx:1008 AM Dial
9am-6pm
SPLASH OUT ENQUIRIES
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W.I.R.E.D.D.(06)2488600

Heart Foundation | I Feel Good! | Healthpact | eat more Fruit'n Veg

Woroni



student comment

geraldine chin
law society president

The case against differential HECS

It was disappointing for students to see the legislative changes, approving the three tiered differential HECS system, passed by the Parliament late last year. These changes will now apply to students commencing university studies this year.

The Changes

Instead of students being required to contribute an equal amount per year towards the costs of their course, the new scheme differentiates HECS on the basis of the field of study. All units of study have been grouped into one of three groupings and the amount of HECS an individual student is charged will now be based on the units of study undertaken.

The base level of the annual HECS charges has increased from a projected level of \$2,487 in 1997 to \$3,300. This base charge will apply broadly to Arts, Humanities, Social Studies/Behavioural Science, Visual/Performing Arts, Education and Nursing.

Disciplines in the second tier of differential HECS now attract an annual charge of \$4,700 and include Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Computing, Health Sci-

ences (other than nursing), Economics, Business, Administration, Architecture and Agriculture.

The third tier of the new scheme encompasses Law, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science. These disciplines will incur an annual charge of \$5,500.

Basis of the Differential Charges

The notion of differential HECS is not a new concept. In fact, it was first raised, and subsequently rejected, when the concept of HECS was first considered by the Wran Committee.

There are two premises on which differential HECS has been proposed in the past. Firstly, on the basis of course costs. Secondly, on the basis of future income potential. The architect of the HECS system, Dr Bruce Chapman, insisted that a differential HECS system should only be based on course costs rather than the perceived income potential of the degree.

However, the current differential HECS scheme has tried to combine both of the theories that have been proposed in the past. By attempting to balance course costs and likely future benefits, the Federal Government has created a set of illogical and misconceived groupings.

For example, tying differential HECS to course cost just doesn't work. Take science as an example, science degrees are relatively expensive to teach yet they do not

tend to lead to high income. On the other hand, basing HECS on future financial benefits is fundamentally inequitable since the course undertaken does not accurately predict financial benefits gained. Instead it reinforces a vision of education as being purely financial gain.

Law as a case study

As I have been asked to write this article in my position as the President of the Law Students' Society, it is probably most appropriate to conclude with a case study of the absurdity of placing law in the third tier of the new HECS scheme. It is alleged that budding law students have the potential to earn exceptionally high salaries. But how many law students desire and ultimately achieve this level of income?

Further, even if all law students were to achieve this, why should we use HECS as a surrogate income tax when we already have a progressive tax system which extracts higher contributions from those with higher incomes.

Further, this is even before we take into account that in order to be admitted to practice, law students must pay an up front fee of around \$7000 at the ANU for their practical legal training after they have completed their undergraduate degree.

This practical training cannot be integrated into the undergraduate degree because the costs are prohibitive given that law faculties

have traditionally been under funded. The Relative Funding Model, adopted in 1991 to determine higher education funding, assigns law to the lowest of five funding clusters along with the low-cost humanities. The effect of this is that law faculties receive the lowest amount of funding per student enrolled.

However, this is assuming that law students intend to enter the legal profession. Recently, the Centre for Legal Education conducted national surveys of the career intentions of final year law students which indicated that an increasing percentage of law students are seeking employment outside the legal profession. In fact, slightly less than half of those surveyed actually intended to enter the private legal profession.

Therefore, is it fair to discriminate against the many students who study law as a more general degree, intending to enter a wide range of professions? Or what about those who desire a career in community legal organisations or academia?

Why are we trying to discourage students from entering alternative careers, and instead paving the way for the law cliché to become a reality by endorsing law as an elitist profession?

on campus

Woroni spoke to first years on enrolment day to find out (a) whether increased HECS put them off enrolling and (b) what they were looking forward to about uni



(a) No, I've decided to have a HECS debt for the rest of my life
(b) Having fun and reliving my youth
—HELEN (ARTS)



(a) I didn't know about it, I was out of the country
(b) Settling down to study after a year overseas
—JUSTIN (ECO/COMM)



(a) No, it was natural for me to go to university — my parents also went to uni.
(b) Meeting new people
—KRISTY (ENGINEERING SCIENCE)



(a) No, I'm going to get a big job at the end to pay my HECS or become a well-educated toyboy.
(b) Talking to pretty girls
—SIMPKIN (ARTS)

The **Constitutional Review Sub-Committee of the ANU Students' Association** is currently seeking submissions from undergraduate students proposing amendments to the current constitution. Copies of the constitution are available from the Students' Association offices, above the uni bar. Submissions should be made in writing, and given to the SA Administrator by the close of business on Friday, 21st March.

Public forum to consider education funding

On Thursday, 6 March at 1pm, the ANU Students' Association, in conjunction with PARSA, will hold a public forum in Manning Clarke Theatre 2 to discuss:

- the impact the 1996 budget has had upon students;
- the likely consequences of funding pressures at the ANU;
- the threats which are likely to be posed by the 1997 budget; and
- the methods students should employ to protect equity and quality in the higher education sector.

All students are encouraged to attend.

political
corner

the issue

Student poverty

The Minister for Higher Education would have us believe that students are one of the most privileged sections of society. By spouting the usual mythology of the Right, Vanstone has claimed that students are essentially middle class and will finish their degrees with incomes many can only dream of.

Unfortunately the opposite is true. Students are one of the poorest sections of society. People joke about student poverty but it is no joke. According to the last survey conducted on student poverty by the National Union of Students in 1992, students had an average income of \$119.82 a week or \$6230.50 a year. The official poverty line is \$161.41 a week or \$8393.32 a year. Fewer than 15 per cent of students receive more than \$200 a week while a quarter had no weekly income at all. More students have part-time work than receive Austudy.

The high paying Executive job is also a myth. Most students end up as white collar-workers in the public sector factories of the public service. Starting salaries for graduates' first full time job average \$26,000 a year—which last year was below the HECS repayment threshold, but is not any more.

The extent of government hypocrisy is best seen with the changes to Austudy. Just think: you pay taxes from work at the age of 15; the age of consent is 16 in nearly all states; you have to pay adult fare from 16 unless you can prove you're a student; you can vote when you're 18 and also be called upon to fight in someone else's war; you can drive a car at 17. But to be entitled to Austudy as an independent "adult", students will now have to be 25 when they begin their studies.

The other side of student poverty is the massive HECS debts students will incur: larger debts which will have to be paid earlier. Students and Uni workers face ever more deteriorating conditions, job cuts, Departments closing down, overcrowded lectures, more up-front-fees and more selling off of student housing. All these attacks are due to the University Administrations leading the charge for the market. The link between the Liberal government's market madness and the University Administrations is inescapable. To beat back the cuts by the Government we will have to beat the cuts on campus.

We are strongest where we study and work and it is at ANU this year that we have to stop the administration from implementing the cuts. The National Union of Students has called a National Day of Action for the 26th of March. Students have an obligation to themselves and to ordinary people in our society to stop Higher Education from becoming something that just the rich can have.

— BEN HALLIDAY
SOCIALIST WORKER STUDENTS CLUB

Aren't we all just a little bit pissed off at hearing the sons and daughters of Sydney's North Shore ("Daddy's a QC but I just want to be free") tell us that good, honest taxpayers not only should but *must* pay for their law degrees? You know the kind of people I'm talking about — the ones in the Union or with the green hair, crusty copy of the Socialist Worker in hand, and a silver spoon in their mouth. Well screw 'em all!

Doesn't it strike you as a little bit strange that those who claim to be 'outside the system' want the state to control their education?

The fact is that taxpayers spend \$4.5 billion on higher education every year, and while it's true that both community and individuals benefit, to junk our self-dignity by whingeing about receiving a few dollars less in subsidies is pretty ugly. We all know that baby boomers are the Captain Fuckups of our national history: crap at war, crap at government, and crap at balancing the books, but I figured that our generation at least had some balls. The truth is that the Government's mistake has not been to attempt to reform the higher education system, but its lack of imagination in pursuing that reform.

Let's face it, university education after the Dawkins blitzkrieg of the late 1980s is hardly conducive to nurturing the next century's great minds. Just as two blokes and a German Shepherd don't make a family two kids add a Golden Book don't make a university. Elitism is not a dirty word. If we are to stride the world stage in the twenty first century with our heads held high, we must pursue excellence, not only in the traditional spheres of knowledge but in burgeoning new technologies.

As paying customers we would get a far better deal than we receive today from the ANU. We mightn't be taught by the socially retarded, the intellectually crippled and the just plain drunk. We wouldn't see the administration (literally) build its own castle in the air or employ more bureaucrats than lecturers. We also mightn't see Labor student politicians with so much time on their hands that they have to fill it in by stuffing ballot boxes!

"What of equity?" I hear you cry. Well why not pursue equality of opportunity in a genuine manner, rather than through the crocodile tears shed by the rich as they receive their subsidised degrees—by charging fees that match outcomes, by making us responsible for our own futures through student loans. Academic scholarships linked to private and public sector employment should also be promoted.

Let's take back our future and our self-dignity. Remember an education that someone else pays for is not a right, it's a privilege.

— CHRIS TAYLOR
ANU LIBERAL CLUB

Students Association

president's
report

matt tinning
sa president



Elected representatives aren't exactly the flavour of the month in student circles. Both federal and local politicians did quite a bit to make themselves unpopular with the students of Canberra last year. This probably makes my task of convincing you that your elected student representatives on campus exist to defend your rights and interests a pretty difficult one, but I'll give it a go.

The ANU Students' Association was formed to give students an organised voice. The elected representatives of the Association sit on over fifty different university committees at which they argue the undergraduate student view point with the administration. This can take many different forms: they sit on the Board of the Faculties and argue that supplementary exams are an essential part of the assessment methods of any modern tertiary institution; they sit on Buildings and Grounds Committee and argue that North Road shouldn't be dug up and then filled back in again on a monthly basis; and they sit on Council and argue that the university should order its financial and political priorities in a fashion which accords more closely with student needs. The task of student representation also takes the SA off campus, to lobby governments, and to raise awareness of the concerns of students amongst the general community.

At the same time the Students' Association exists to offer a direct service to students. Buried in the catacombs of the SA offices, which you can find by going up the external stairs above the uni bar's beer garden, you can find the "new look" second hand book shop, where you can buy and sell textbooks of all varieties. While you're there you can drop in on Anne McCusker, the SA's welfare officer, who can help you find your way over the hurdles set by DEETYA and DSS to access those remnants of student entitlements which haven't as yet been axed. The SA's the place to contact Clubs and Societies on campus, contribute to *Woroni* or *Amida*, or confer with the Women's or Sexuality Officers. If you're a parent on campus you can visit the SA's new 24 hour parenting room, or if you're in desperate financial need you can apply with us for an emergency loan. The SA's got it all!

One of the SA's biggest undertakings is to stage Orientation Week each year. A huge thankyou to Lara, Faye, Haidi, Sebastian, Nick, and all their helpers who have prepared an O-Week that is set to surpass all in living memory. It has been argued that O-Week is the defining moment for the rest of our degrees — that a student who is prepared to tackle O-Week with a passion is destined for a successful stint in the tertiary sector. Of course others argue that this is merely idle conjecture, but my advice would be not to take the risk! Don't even consider missing a minute of market day or the pool party. Don't even contemplate skipping the bar slug or the O-Week picnic. Don't be scared to strip down for the Undie Run on Wednesday, or to don your favourite drag and win a fantastic holiday for two on Thursday. This is O-Week — the campus is your oyster.

Finally, like any representative body, the Students' Association relies on the involvement of its members. I can't stress enough that you are always more than welcome to come in and whinge to us about anything you don't like around campus. Hearing your concerns is the only way we can represent you effectively.

So all the best from me for a great time at uni — remember, we are told that students are 'consumers' in the modern tertiary sector. Now that you've forked out several thousand dollars in HECS payments, aim to get value for money!

— MATTHEW TINNING

general secretary's report

Hi, I'm this year's General Secretary and being the optimist that I am, my main goal is to break the long-standing ANU tradition that the General Secretary resigns before completing his or her term. That aside, my main responsibilities involve chairing meetings of the SRC and General Meetings of the SA.

The ANU has a very strong system of participatory democracy such that much power is vested in General Meetings. Consequently, I hope to encourage students to take an interest in how the SA is being run and how they are being represented and to have their say at General Meetings. I also hope to encourage students to get involved in order to keep the Executive (ie President, Treasurer and General Secretary) and the SRC accountable.

My other responsibility is the SRC. I think the main goal for the SRC this year is that it be visible and active. It is very easy for SRC members to be shut out of any important decisions if they are not consulted, or kept informed, by the Executive. Similarly, it is easy for the SRC to act without reference to student interests if students don't know who their representatives are or how to get in touch with them. We will endeavour to rectify such problems this year. Our first step to this end is the 'Meet-the-SRC BBQ' being held during the Friday Picnic in O-Week. Please come along, if only for the free food. You never know, you may find that some of us are normal, approachable people who are interested in your point of view. Hope to meet you sometime.

— HARRY GREENWELL

reports

reports

Sexuality Department

The Sexuality Department has undergone some dramatic changes this year. You will see none of the familiar faces of 1996. In their place, they have instated a ruggedly handsome officer to take over the reigns, who performs the necessary tasks of dealing with the sexual problems of the entire student population of ANU, single-handedly. His name is Mark-Leon Thorne.

These tasks include making available a supply of condoms, dams, lube and other safe sex impliments, non-heterosexual publications and other informative reading material, poster campaigns and information stalls for Orientation Week, Bush Week, Open Day and other university events.

The newest function of ANU's Sexuality Department will be a new international organisation to link sexuality departments and LesBiGay groups at campuses all around the world. Called the International Student Sexuality Council, it will be run from the office of the ANU Sexuality Department and will have members from such diverse countries as Israel, Russia and Mexico. Its purpose is to share resources and ideas between univerities on a range of subjects connected to sexuality. For students intending to study overseas, we can supply information about sexuality issues in various countries. A website is being created and a mailing list is also being set up.

Condoms and lube are available from the Sexuality Office in the Students' Association. Non-hetero-

sexual periodicals are available from outside the SA offices, including the *Sydney Star Observer*, *Capital Q* and *Lesbians On The Loose*.

One of the main functions of the Sexuality Department has always been as a non-judgemental referral service. Feel free to contact us about any questions or problems you are facing of a sexual nature. We will be only too happy to sit down and discuss them with you, either in the office or at a more discreet location. We can talk through your options, supply necessary literature or refer you to the most appropriate service or group. **All enquiries are treated with confidentiality and discretion.**

The department is currently on a recruitment drive. We are particularly looking for a female sexuality officer, but we will consider another male too. We would prefer someone who is non-heterosexual, but are also looking at some heterosexual input as well. We would like an even representation of sexualities. To enquire about the volunteer position, please contact Mark on 279 8514 or 267 4983 or see us at the Sexuality Department's table on Market Day, February 26.

We are all sexual beings, so I expect to be seeing each and everyone of you at some time throughout 1997. We wish you all a happy, productive and safe year.

To contact us, call: 279 8514, or e-mail to sexdep@student.anu.edu.au or call into the office at the Students' Association.

—MARK-LEON THORNE
ANU SEXUALITY OFFICER

women's office

A warm hello to all women! We are Becky and Sarah, your Women's Officers this year. We are here to look out for your interests and provide an identity for women on campus. This means that we provide important information (on women's health, safety etc.), have some fun events, like picnics, film nights, guest speakers and the like, but most importantly, we're here to talk if anyone needs us.

We also produce the Women's Handbook which is full of interesting and groovy articles, poems, artwork and important info on health and services. A must for all women. So look out for us in O'week to get your copy. We'll be sharing a stall with Mark, the ruggedly handsome Sexuality Officer. We will also be looking for any interested women who would like to join a collective and get active with us.

We also have a women's room on campus, called the Rapunzel room, for all those women out there who want to let their hair down! The room is located in the ground floor of the Crisp Building. It has 24 hour access, and to get in you have to know the code which you can get from us at the Women's office, or from Karen in the front office of the Student's Association. The Rapunzel room is a warm and cosy space for women. It's stocked with tea and coffee, has comfy couches, a new microwave and baby changing facilities. The room is a great place to hang out in between lectures, and can be quiet and peaceful, or filled with friendly females. Basically, it's an excellent

resource for women, so don't be shy about utilising it.

Other Women's events to look out for: Saturday the 8th of March is International Women's day, so lots will be happening around Canberra. A rally is being organised for all those women who want to raise their voices against the current backlash against women's rights and specifically against the Liberal governments cuts to women's services. There will be guest speakers and some performers. The march will start at 11am in Garema Place and will end up at civic pool for Splash Out. At Splash Out, we can all relax and enjoy heaps of fun activities such as: music, dance, water sports and an information fair, with 2XX broadcasting live.

From the 28th of July to the 1st of August we will celebrate Blue-stocking week. The week honours women's achievements in Higher Education and acknowledges the importance of women's intellectual contributions. We will be hosting various activities throughout this week, so look out for details.

'Reclaim the night' will also be happening later on in the year. The night consists of speakers and musicians and a march where we women take to the streets with our loudest voices to claim our right to live without violence or the fear of violence.

There will be heaps happening, so we'd love to see you at some time throughout the year.

Find the feminist within.
—BECKY DEVITT AND SARAH CHIDGEY
ANU WOMENS OFFICERS

Student welfare service

Welcome to the ANU, I am the Student Welfare Officer and my name is Anne McCusker. I am employed by the University and the Student Association to provide information and advice to students on a wide range of issues that affect the day to day lives of students. One of my specialties is AUSTUDY.

I can give you assistance with the wording of appeals and have some helpful contacts in the AUSTUDY office if your payments are late. I can also give you information about other services around Canberra that are provided for low income earners such as cheap housing and furniture, the office also has copies of the Free Food Guide for young people which when the money is getting really low could be very handy. There are many areas where you can save money, you may be entitled to a Health Care Card. To get more information about this and other benefits you may be entitled to call in and see me.

If you are living on AUSTUDY you will most probably find it quite difficult to make ends meet. Organising a budget for yourself and sticking to it the best way to keep yourself financially viable. This of course doesn't always run according to plan so when the big unexpected bill comes in, and you've run out of money, the Student As-

sociation and the University have Loan Schemes for students. The Student Association provides an \$80 interest free emergency loan which you have up to two months to pay it back. If you need more money than this, the University provides a loans service in conjunction with the Credit Union on campus — application forms are available from the SA office.

Sexual Harassment is another issue that will confront some students. If you feel that you are being or may have been sexually harassed, get in touch with a contact person. I am one, and each department will have one or more. Alternatively, ring the sexual harassment phone line anonymously 249 3595 or discuss your options with a counsellor 249 2442.

I have a home page on the World Wide Webb <http://www.anu.edu.au/cis/Student/Welfare/Home.html>. This has links to the AUSTUDY Home Page and many other campus services that are available to students.

If you have a problem, however large or small, drop in any time, or phone me on 249 5849 or e-mail anne.mccusker@anu.edu.au. If I can't help you, I am sure to know someone who can.

— ANNE MCCUSKER
ANU STUDENT ASSOCIATION OFFICE



SENATOR KATE LUNDY

SENATOR FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Problems with AUSTUDY

Recently a number of students have contacted me seeking assistance or advice in regards to AUSTUDY payments. Many of the people who have telephoned me or visited my electorate office have complained about the same thing — that they cannot get through to AUSTUDY on the telephone to discuss their cases.

I am aware that the AUSTUDY hotline is often engaged. Unfortunately the current Federal Coalition Government has reduced funding to such an extent that the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs is severely understaffed.

Before the last federal election, Senator Hill (then the Coalition's Shadow Minister for Education, Science and Technology) told the National Union of Students that a Liberal Government would "seek to improve the administration of AUSTUDY... to ensure that students receive a better service".

Clearly this has not happened, despite the obvious dedication of AUSTUDY staff. In fact the wave of public sector cuts has shackled AUSTUDY's ability to cope with the number of inquiries it receives. It is not the fault of AUSTUDY staff that the hotline number is always engaged or that they have restricted time to deal with your problems. Although we sometimes feel angry and frustrated when things don't flow smoothly, just remember that those people at AUSTUDY are often overworked and their omces under resourced. I'm sure they would welcome additional funding that would ensure that students receive what they were promised — a better service from the government.

AUSTUDY relies on a paper trail by students. It is essential that you supply every piece of information as requested. I have come across several cases where AUSTUDY payments have been delayed because confirmation of enrolment or other necessary information has not been provided. If your AUSTUDY application has not been processed, it may be because they are waiting for further information from you. If you are continuing to have problems with payments or applications, contact your Student Assistance Centre. But remember, an AUSTUDY application takes 21 days to process, and every additional piece of information requested can delay matters by a further 21 days.

Occasionally students experience serious problems. In these cases, the best thing to do is to firstly clarify the situation with AUSTUDY by calling their hotline on 1800 040 931. If you still require help, contact your local federal member of parliament or my electorate office on 230 0411. A letter to the Federal Minister, Amanda Vanstone, may also be warranted.

— KATE LUNDY



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RRP \$3395

Performa 6400
16MB/1.6GB/CD & 14" monitor

\$2995 ②
RRP \$4195

QuickTake 150
Colour Digital Camera

\$395 ③
RRP \$895

Director's Edition
24MB/2.4GB/CD
Including Modem, TV etc

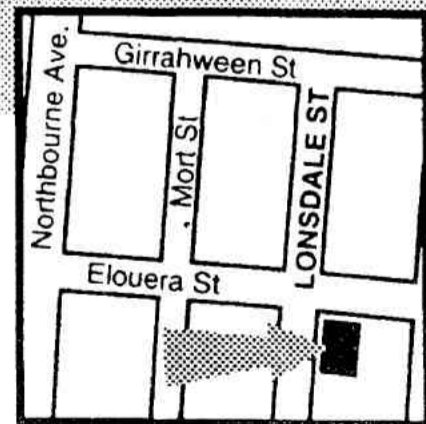
\$3995 ④
RRP \$4995

HURRY!!!

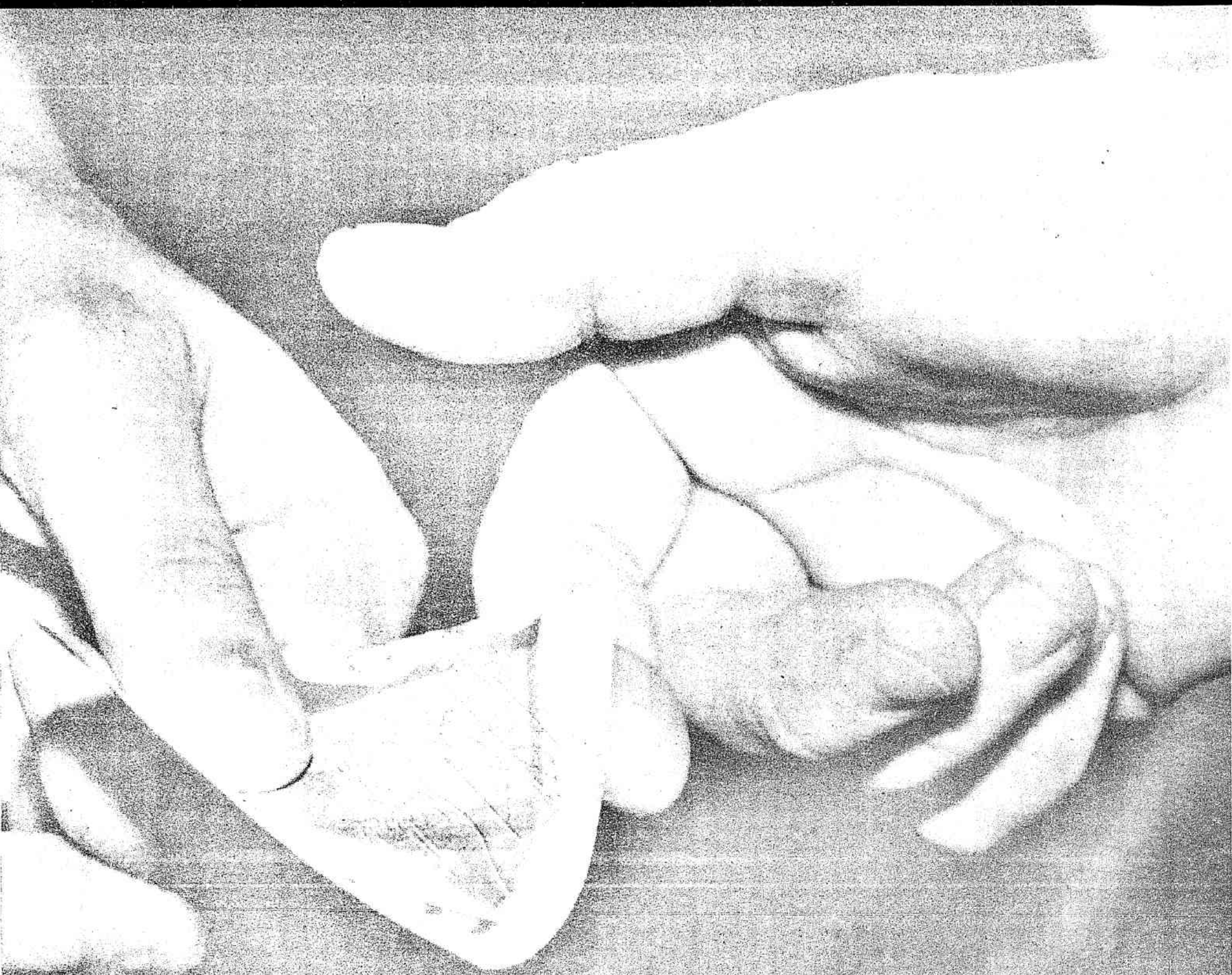
Cnr Elouera & Lonsdale Sts. Braddon



(06) 247 1797



ACC0102



O-Week is a time for having fun. For many, it is also a time for experimenting with drugs.

Ex-first year RAOUL HANNA takes a personal look at the drug scene on campus and some of the more bizarre rumours surrounding uni bar and college drug use.

WHAT'S THE DEAL?

Confessions of a first year drug user

“Do you wanna stick?” The question was loud, blunt, and aimed straight at me. I shrugged and shook my head, “No thanks mate.” Well maybe I did want one, but here and now? I was sure the growing throng of students would have at least a few people that would detest such dealings in public, especially when it involved a man of the AC/DC generation, black T-shirt, tight, torn denim jeans, and me, a blue haired first year. As far as I observed, no one seemed to take any notice, and if they did, they didn't care.

My friends soon arrived, chanting disparaging words about everything to do with education (especially economics and commerce). They had already noticed the welcoming committee, whom I shall call G. B. (only to keep my own arse intact!), and inevitably after a few brain freezing beers, we unanimously decided that full mutation was the only way to enjoy O-week. I made my way to the beer garden, where I was sure to find something. Much to my surprise, I found my good friend G. B., still in the same spot, just inside the entrance. Now mind you, this was not the first dealing I had had with pot, and due to my own budding interests, certainly nowhere near the last, but there was no way of denying the slight feeling of intimidation as I grovelled my way over to him.

I spoke quietly, “Can you help us out?”

He grinned, he knew how I felt, this man had seen hundreds of fresh, first year faces like mine. He laughed aloud, “First year?”

Another blunt question, I really was beginning to feel like a beacon, I replied timidly, “Yup.”

He was friendly enough to realise that I wanted the transaction hustled along. Looking like I was going to flee also probably aided the situation. We shuffled around to the dark dirtiness under the stairs, swapped \$25 for a chaffy looking rigger, said good-bye, and parted our ways till another time. I went off to my friends house and soon passed out face down.

This is one small scene in the vast sea of stories I can tell of the Uni bar, and its drug underground. I am sure there are thousands of identical experiences untold by the masses of pot heads out there.

With the university being an oasis of ganja, acid, speed, less frequently ecstasy, it is very hard for one to avoid them. It is even harder to avoid them when your life revolves around social instincts of beer and sex, rather than study. Being a regular at the bar, drugs tend to pop up in some unusual circumstances.

A fellow patron of the bar, Leaf Layman, recalls one such incident. One hazy afternoon he came scurrying out of the squealing entrance to the toilets, “I was just on my way to hang a slash,” he was looking bemused, “and I had to step over these silly bastards sucking coke off the toilet floor!”

He was drunk, and not really inclined to shut up at this point, “I had to fuckin' step over 'em man!”

“That's disgusting!” another friend spurted, “Why don't they do it off a table or something?”

Funnily enough, I had this feeling that the people in the toilets didn't care about where they did it, so long as it was out of plain view. I ended up checking it out myself a bit later. ▶

**“Like any first year
I wanted to know all experiences.
I was already into pot, and I took some good
acid within the first week...
then I really screwed up.”**



sprawled on the toilet floor, giggling about “jelly knees”, or some other laughable physical condition, I shrugged and went to splash the boots. Drugs and the university life had now been firmly cemented together, as far as I was concerned.

I have up until now, written primarily about the Uni bar being the drug centre of the ANU. This is not necessarily the case. If you wind up visiting the bar frequently, you can gain many acquaintances that are professed drug runners, and a fair proportion of these come from the colleges. Myth has it that if you knock on enough doors in a college, you will soon find or get directed to a room that can aid your quest. Another non-myth that should be considered, is that a black eye is just as likely to be issued by an anxious, wary dealer, as is a portion of their poison. Over in the colleges it is the same story as in the bar; there are a great number of contacts to choose from, and they all know each other through the circles, and the other intricacies of the drug world. For example, if one's regular service is low on a certain product, it is not too hard to rectify this shortage by making a few calls over the phone.

Another problem with knowing and frequently being seen with such conspicuous characters is that one becomes instantly recognised as one of their clientele, and the more clientele, the more conspicuous the dealings become. Most dealers aren't too concerned with this situation; they display this by growing massive shrubs under High Pressure Sodium lights, and smoking bucket loads of pot each day, both of these activities being fairly obvious to anyone standing within ten feet of the door.

There have been many interesting stories about student drug use floating around over the years. The latest

story is of one particular unit in a housing estate being convicted; if it was for drugs, rent, or general vulgarity, I'm not too sure. What I do know, however, is that they found twenty four syringes, and a cage of rats in his room. I don't think I would like to let my imagination go any further.

From my perspective, colleges do seem to have a fair amount of drugs flowing through them. I spoke to several of the college's deans and wardens, and those who were aware of the college drug scene, said that the dealing and consumption within the colleges is fairly innocuous. As a result they don't seem too concerned to employ their time and effort to monitor this small time drug racket.

Interestingly enough, this seems to be the same sort of view the police take of the Uni bar. I asked the police about their under cover work. They admitted to doing this, but they also stated that it took place when the Uni bar “was a problem”. As far as it goes, most people that I have spoken to have known the Uni bar as the only consistently reliable thing at the ANU, the faces may change, they might make the decor worse, and the beer more expensive each year, but the drugs remain as bountiful as ever.

The difference now is that the dealings in large quantities of drugs (ounces to pounds of pot, sheets of acid etc.) have now been relocated to dark car parks, and run down group houses across Canberra. These are the transactions the police claim to be more concerned about. Despite that, it still wouldn't be too hard for them to throw in the odd plain clothes cop and bust a few dealers. I do know for a fact that when a few people last year were busted for consumption of illicit substances in the beer garden, the charge was minor (\$50), which isn't

even a dent in a dealers pocket.

At the ANU, drugs are easy to get, and especially to get into, but there is an extremely thin line between experiencing something beautiful, and experiencing something you can't get out of. One gram of pot can get four people nicely bent, three pretty whacked, two rooted, and one, well let me put it this way, fucked. Sometimes pot is only a small step to relieving the tedium of day to day life, so as a consequence stronger chemicals seem to be the better roller coaster. To many, acid, ecstasy and speed seem to be the next step. In some cases one experience is enough to turn yourself into a paranoid, nail chewing schizophrenic for a few days, but quite often it's not, with the prices (\$20 for one trip), and the availability, some people over-indulge. Of course there are heavier drugs to consider, but the use of these drugs is a bit less wide-spread across the campus, however, if you are intent on turning yourself into a zombie for life, they aren't too hard to get.

I may sound like I am preaching like your parents, and I apologise profusely for it. University is about learning, and that could include experimenting with drugs. But the starkest thing I have been told was by a rehabilitated heroin user. I was just finishing off the research into this story by consuming beer and talking to other patrons of the bar, when this long time dealer spoke out, “I was a first year once” he said with a saddening tone in his voice, “but I screwed up.”

I wanted to know more, so I asked him what happened.

“Like any first year, I wanted to know all experiences”, he paused with a sly grin, “I was already into pot, and I took some good acid within the first week.”

I was starting to feel a bit of deja-vu as he continued. ▶



**“They found twenty four
syringes, and a cage of rats in his
room.”**

The Hard Line

Drug use and abuse is a pervasive part of modern society. There is little question that you will encounter a variety of drugs while at university. Regardless of the fickleness of supply and the heated debate over the personal pros and cons of drug use, it is worth acquainting yourself with the legal and regulatory consequences of drug use and dealing before you indulge.

In the words of Philip Selth, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Planning & Administration): "The University's position on illegal drugs is quite clear — we simply apply the law. The fact that someone may be a student makes no difference. Where instances of dealing are drawn to the attention of the University, the matters are immediately referred to the police."

There is no ambiguity in the official line.

However, as you are unlikely to find yourself accidentally snorting a nose-full of cocaine in the V-C's office on any given day, it is also worth considering the enforcement policies prevalent in more sociable environments.

When it comes to Halls and Colleges, the Wardens and Principals are largely bound by the University policy, and while grey areas exist, they are few and far between. The "no drug policy" at Fenner Hall, for example, extends, in the words of Head Kate Hayes, to "the proven consumption of any substance constituting a criminal offence". The penalty is immediate expulsion from the Hall.

Outside the colleges, one of the more sociable areas on campus is the Uni Bar (bottom floor Union building). In the 1970s and '80s the Uni bar was generally considered to be one of the most reliable sources of drugs on the Eastern seaboard (receiving a write up to that effect in the *Sydney Morning Herald* as recently as 1994). According to the current Union General Manager, Rod Thomas, "that conception [of pervasive drug dealing] still lingers". Nonetheless, the Union has taken considerable action over the past few years to "comply with the law and stamp [drug dealing] out". The bar policy involves calling police in to sort out dealers and putting on extra security at large concerts. In Mr Thomas' opinion, "while drugs will never be eradicated from the university environment, the volume and severity of drugs traded on campus has declined steeply over the course of the past few years". And the penalties? If you are a non-member, a bust at the Uni Bar leaves you banned for life. Members (students) are usually reported to the Union's Disciplinary Committee, though serious offences inevitably involve the police. Undercover police visits are becoming more common.

The caveats are obvious and the choice is yours. This O-Week is the time to make informed choices in the presence of people you trust.

—MICHAEL ZORBAS

◀ "I kept chewing acid, and snorting speed for a while, which of course caused me to drop out in first semester, until I was even bored of that. That's when my temptations turned to heroin. I was so fucked up by that time, that I wasn't even surprised to see myself jabbing a syringe in my arm, something that always disgusted me."

The poor guy, I felt sorry for him. He had not only managed to lose hold of his personal values, but he had even lost hold of himself. He still smoked pot a fair bit, he claimed it was to keep him sane, but I felt at the time it was the legacy of his addiction. I feel that I have no right to preach the rights and wrongs of drugs because of my double life as Potman, but I also feel that there are a lot of people out there, repeating first year Uni for the third time, that will appreciate what this man has said about drugs. His lost, rapidly aging face, and his sunken eyes stands out more vividly than my first dose of a laced paper square.

This article is one student's point of view. It does not necessarily represent the views or experience of the Woroni editors.

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Contribute.

Woroni is always looking for writers, photographers, cartoonists, layout people, and general office minions.

If you think you have something to offer, call into the Woroni office. We are located at the back of the Students Association above the Bar, and we are very, very friendly.

See us at the Woroni stall on Market day to find out more, or call us on 248 7127.

Meditation at the ANU

By popular request, the Sri Chinmoy Centre will be holding another 4-week series of free meditation workshops at the ANU, at 1.00 Wednesdays, from March 5-26 in Copeland G30. Relax, focus yourself... and discover your true potential. Phone 248 0232 for further details or fax 209 3078.

Wanted: Volunteer Tutors

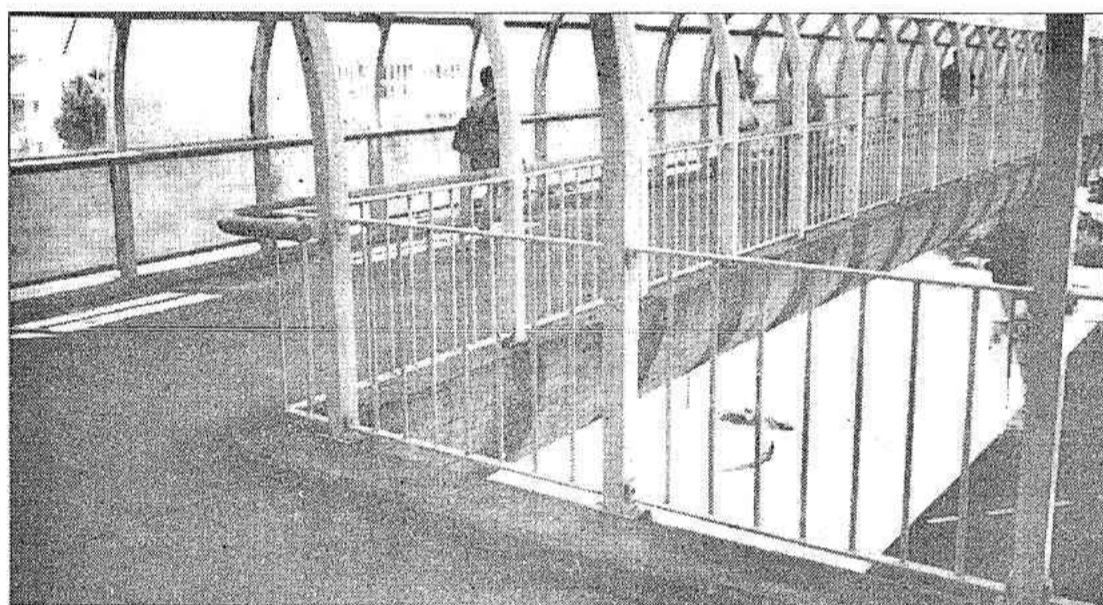
Do you have an hour a week to spare? We urgently need volunteer tutors to assist refugees and other migrants who are experiencing difficulties in secondary school studies.

Helping a young person from a Non English Speaking Background to overcome the disadvantages of the language barrier, of disrupted schooling and sometimes of illiteracy and innumeracy is a rewarding experience. Such students also have difficulty functioning in the unfamiliar Australian school environment and are unfamiliar with its expectations. The Program for After School Studies (PASS) at the Migrant Resource Centre has a waiting list of students who need assistance. We are looking for tutors to teach both English and a range of other subjects studied in secondary schools and colleges, including mathematics, the sciences and computing. Tuition normally occurs either in Civic at the Migrant Resource Centre or in Belconnen but we are also interested in extending the program into the Tuggeranong area.

If you are interested, please contact Phillipa at the Migrant Resource Centre on 248 8577 or visit the Migrant Resource Centre of Canberra & Queanbeyan Inc. on the first floor of the Griffin Centre, Bunda Street, Civic.

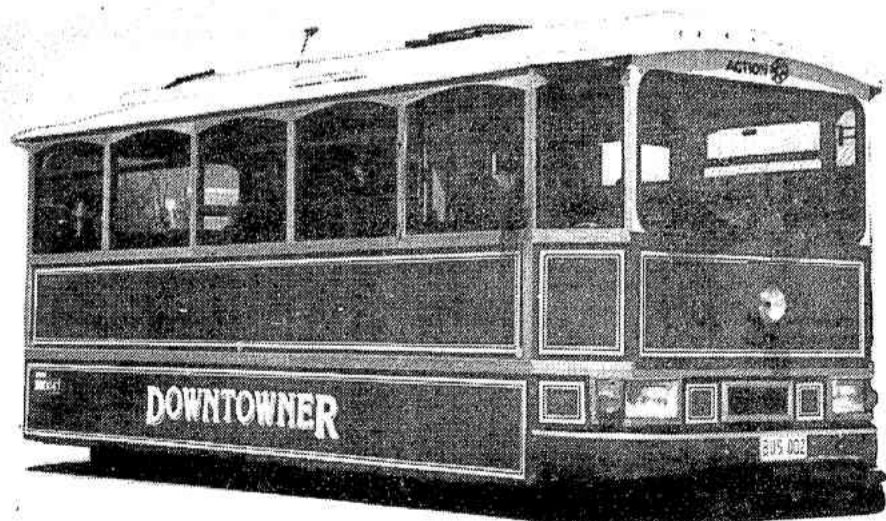
Where the streets have no fences

Well might you think that Canberra is a boring shithole that freezes in Winter, roasts in Summer and has bad transport... well you think right, but Canberra also has an edgy surrealism that is found only in the Bush Capital. We hope that the following guide will be both an introduction to Canberra's outer-edges of logical comprehension, and an articulation of the confusion new students must surely be experiencing as they lose their Canberra virginity.

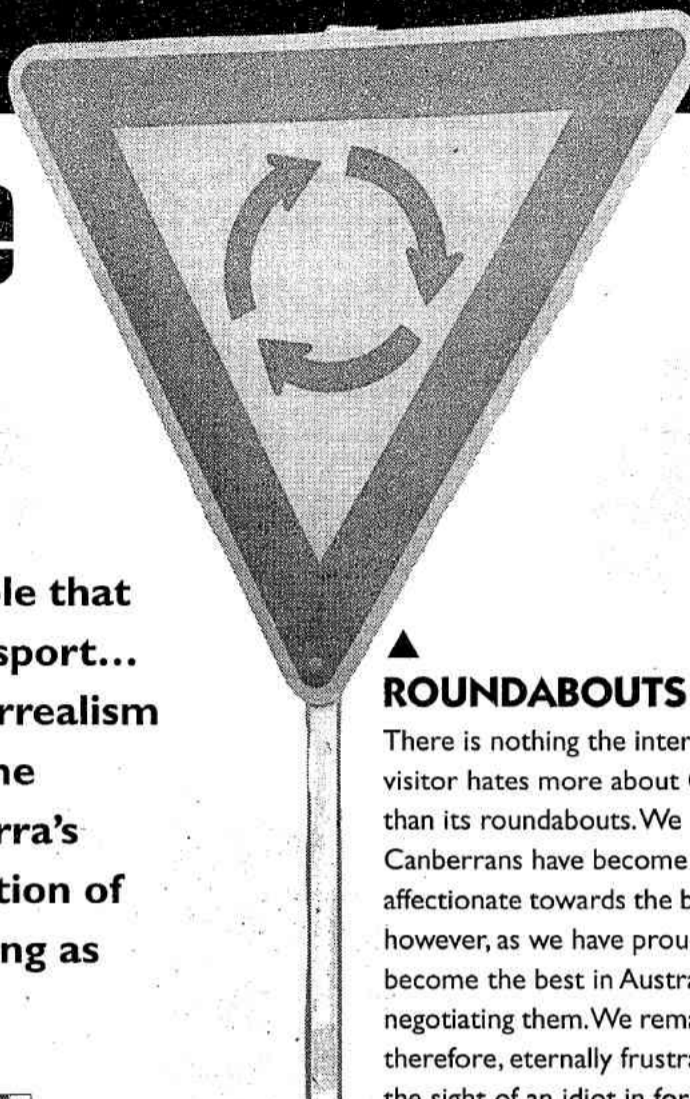


BELCONNEN BRIDGES ▲

Belconnen, Canberra's northern centre, fits perfectly the concept of the "Celestial City" on which it was modelled. A series of 'sky-bridges' criss-cross the area, thus ensuring that the blessed feet of the Canberra population need never be forced to touch the ground. One moves from a floating bus interchange to elevated bridges to the might of the Belconnen Mall. Thus the Canberra population is sheltered from the harshness of the elements.

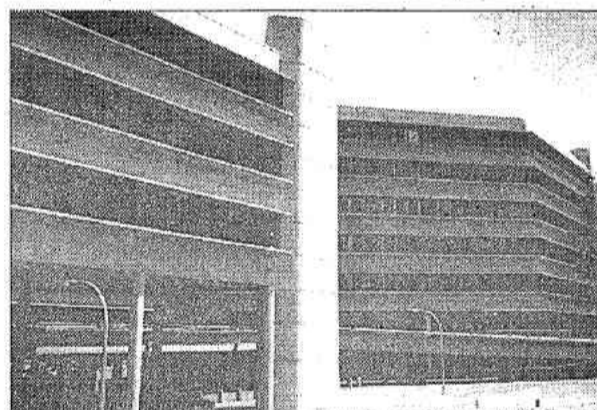


Tour Guide: Brendan Shanahan
Photos: Jason Richardson



▲ ROUNDABOUTS

There is nothing the interstate visitor hates more about Canberra than its roundabouts. We Canberrans have become rather affectionate towards the blighters, however, as we have proudly become the best in Australia at negotiating them. We remain, therefore, eternally frustrated by the sight of an idiot in foreign number plates exiting up a one-way street; which he thinks is a two-lane highway because it's so big.

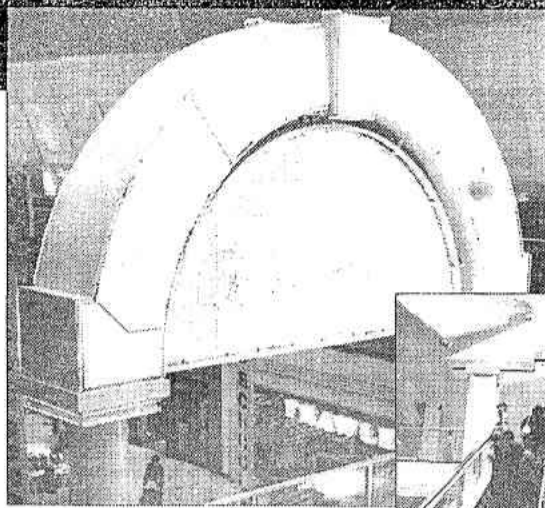


BIG BUILDINGS ▲

A classic example of Canberra's knack for taking the mundane and creating the surreal can be seen in its 'Big Buildings'. Like a scene from Jurassic Park, these bloody great things create little islands of architectural brutalism that never fail to surprise the casual visitor. This classic example, to be found in Belconnen, rises out of the bush as one approaches it in the kind of aesthetic surprise attack to which Canberrans have become accustomed.

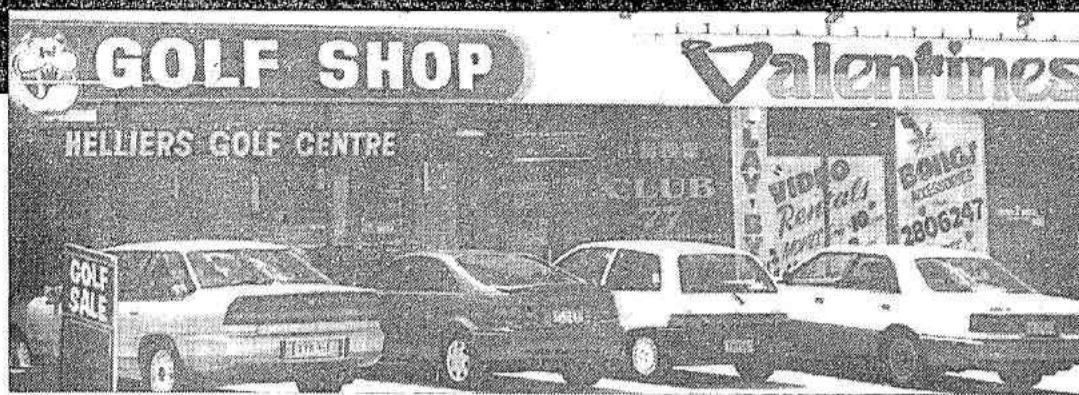
◀ DOWNTOWNER

With a CBD roughly equivalent in size to Sydney's Bondi Junction, there was an obvious need in Canberra for a special bus that services only the centre of town. With ACTION buses losing enormous amounts of money every year, it was also obvious that this service should not only be free, but be modelled to look like an antique "tram" with polished wood seats and brass trim. Personally, I am more than happy to be paying more money every year for my bus tickets in order that Canberra may have its answer to the monorail.



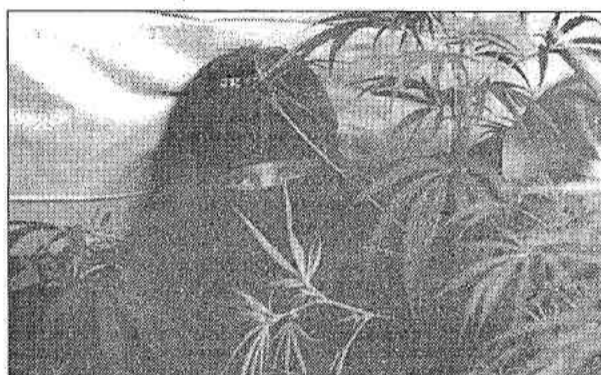
PALM AND CLOCK COURT ▲ ►

Like Dutch Renaissance plazas dedicated to the bettering of international trade relations, Palm and Clock Courts in Woden fulfill their roles as Canberra's twin stars in the firmament of the Capital's shop heaven. Canberra has the largest amount of per-capita shopping space in Australia. When the powers of Palm and Clock Courts combine, they do indeed make for both a formidable, and typical, experience in the Canberra shopping mall.



BROTHELS ▲

Canberra is sort of the Switzerland of the Southern Hemisphere. By this I mean that, in the best tradition of bourgeois morality, if we have a problem then we would rather legalise it and make some kosher money, than be burdened with the possible guilt of a dodgy ethical question. Thus the new visitor is forever titillated by images of brothels and sex shops. These places take on an added dimension of weirdness however, when connected to something as innocuous as a golf store. The comedic possibilities are endless; we could sink a few balls, check-out the second hole, handle some clubs or... Christ! I could go on forever, but I won't.



◀ DOPE PLANTS

In another example of the 'Switzerland Mentality', Canberra's legalisation of marijuana is another law that holds endless fascination with the outsider. "You can buy bong in newsagents here!" they exclaim. Yes that's right, and with five plants allowed per household, any Canberra kid can become their own bad-ass drug dealer — with their parent's permission, of course.

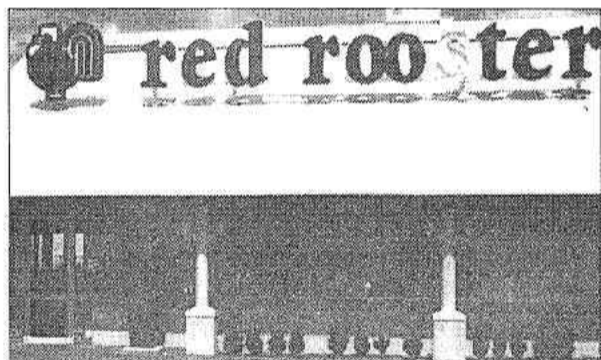
SOUTH PACIFIC RUGBY CLUB



SOUTH PACIFIC RUGBY CLUB ◀

Only in Canberra could this place exist. A sort of second-grade RSL with ridiculously cheap beer, a "South Pacific" theme (including painted maps

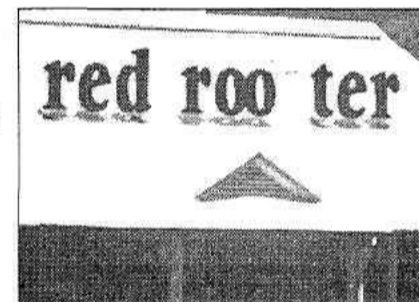
and real palm trees), the trashiest music of all time and a clientele that peacefully mixes Pacific Islanders, sportos and poofy arts students. All this downstairs from a library — go figure.



◀ RED ROOTER

Booners are not a phenomenon unique to Canberra. Known as Westies in Sydney and Bogans in Melbourne and Adelaide, this

species is an Australian urban-tribe standard. A classic example of booner comedy-as-art can be seen in the twin examples of Red Rooter — one in the north and one in the south. Booners: they may not be real sophisticated, but they can be fuckin' funny, mate.



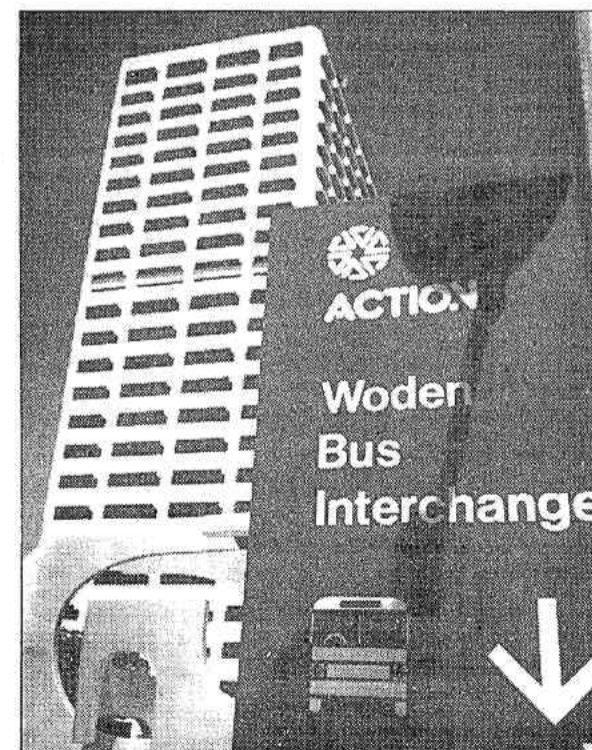
HOMEWORLD TOWER ►

Like some sort of turn-of-the-century monument dedicated to humankind's technological progress, the "Homeworld Tower" rises proudly from the flat tundra of Tuggeranong — why? Who knows. This tower is in the best tradition of Canberra oddities which must be simultaneously huge, useless and badly designed by a second-year architecture student.



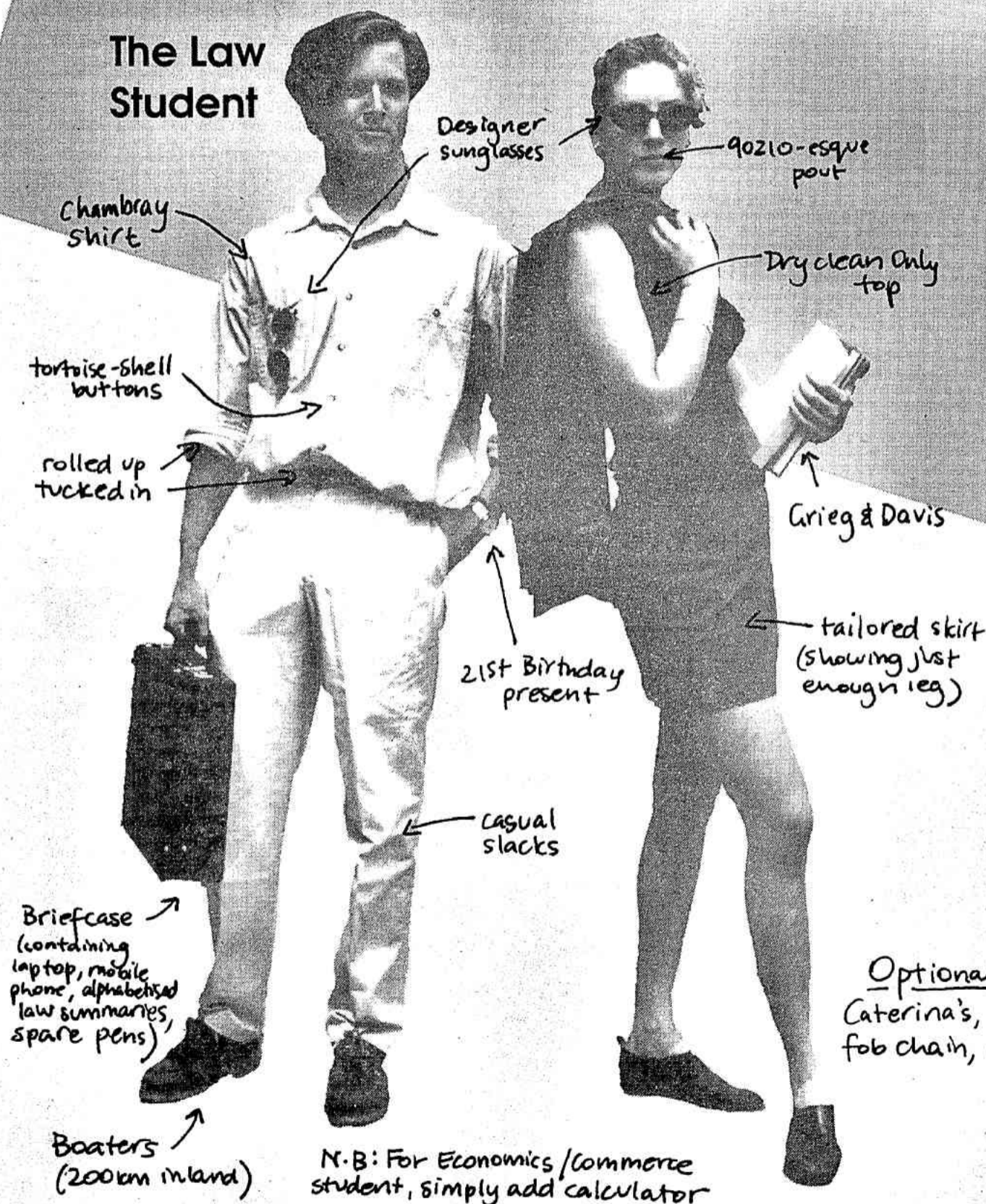
MLC BUILDING ►

Canberra's urban planning laws forbid any building higher than 12 storeys from being built in the CBD. This may go a long way in explaining the presence of the MLC building in out-of-town Woden. The towering might of this 25 storey "stairway to the stars" dominates Woden's skyline, and convincingly stakes its claim as Canberra's largest (yes **largest**) office building. It meets the criteria of a Canberra classic by being both big, useless (it's half-empty), completely without a reason for existence and designed by a trained sea-lion with a metre ruler.



a matter of deed

The Law Student



Q. What did the Arts graduate say to the Law graduate?
A. Would you like fries with that, sir?

EMILY ROBERTSON looks at the stereotypes surrounding our degrees and the way they have been influenced by theories of economic rationalism.

Optional extras: capuccino from Caterina's, Debating Society membership, fob chain, eating disorder

Photos: Emma White

reee

Optional extras: wrap around sunglasses, bleached/orange/green hair, body piercings

"please take me seriously" expression

symbolic pendant on rotting leather thong

Beads

Nietzsche/Derrida/de Beauvoir

generic "3rd world" skirt

vegan boots

slightly too long fringe

Retro Hawaiian-style shirt from German house markets

100% Hemp shoulder bag

jewellery

Baggy skater shorts

Flat sneakers

The Arts Student

WHEN RODERICK WEST declared on behalf of the government's Higher Education Review a couple of weeks ago that his vision for a university was "non-vocational", he opened the proverbial can of worms. This is hardly surprising, as the topic of tertiary education is one of the most unpleasant bureaucratic and political can of worms that one could dare to open. As Doug Kelly, head of the ANU Classics Department and the President of the ANU branch of the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) observed, "he was thrown in at short notice into one of the most turbulent and complex parts of our society, whose direct involvement with universities and university policies until a couple of weeks ago was next to nothing". Which is possibly why he agreed to take the job in the first place.

"Non-vocational". What that innocuous, hyphenated word signified was yet another clash between the "economic rationalists" — some of whom envision future universities as a profitable commodity where students directly gain skills for the job market — and those who believe that universities should continue to foster knowledge that does not immediately translate into monetary profit, but can benefit society as a whole. It also revealed that West had better get a grip on what "vocational" actually means as "profitable" degrees such as law and medicine are obviously already vocational.

West's comment raises one very interesting and pertinent question. Can a university retain its "non-vocational" subjects and yet translate them into jobs and skills that make graduates employable? Perhaps it is already doing that. The best indicator for this is the arts, often considered by those who don't study the arts to be a somewhat flutulent and impractical subject. But is it really? What does an arts degree mean? What is its value?

Vanstone's Reforms, as they will undoubtedly will be dubbed by history books twenty years hence, attempted to take into account the "value" of the arts degree by reforming the HECS system. The new hierarchical system of payment was partly due to cost of units, but it was also due to projected income. For example, the justification ran, law courses cost more because lawyers will earn more. On the other hand, while the cost of an arts degree is equal to that of law, it is the

cheapest course as it is assumed that holders of arts degrees will earn relatively less money. Overall, university courses which were seen to be more vocationally orientated, such as economics, engineering, law and medicine have higher fees. Vanstone called arts the soft-option" in her reform outline, essentially a perjorative term.

"It's definitely not a soft option," says Paul Thom, Head of the Department of Philosophy. "I'm always very impressed by the sheer amount of work arts students do in their essays. People clearly spend a lot of library time, and reading time on their essays that go way beyond anything that they were given in the lectures."

Kelly feels that the defensiveness that some arts students have when declaring their degree comes from being an inhabitant of a profit-orientated society. If it's assumed you get more money at the other end of the degree, perhaps it's perceived to be harder as well.

"If you say that you are studying Anthropology, or Philosophy, note the response. Seven times out of ten it will be bafflement or some derogatory quip. But if you say you are studying accountancy, economics, or actuarial studies, people say 'what's that?' You respond, 'big bucks', and the response is markedly more positive. How much money you make is the measure of you."

When asked what the value of an arts degree is, Professor Don Anderson of ANU's Centre for Continuing Education replies tersely, "The very fact that question is taken seriously indicates how far economic rationalism has seeped into the very fabric of our society. Twenty years ago that question would have been considered nonsensical. What use is an idea? What use is a theory? Or an educated citizenry? Or the ability to take a critical stance, and write a well thought out report?"

However, it would appear that the government's form of economic rationalism is not even that rational from a purely economic viewpoint. Mark Harrison, who is lecturing on the economics of education points out several irrational aspects of Vanstone's "soft-option" perception of the arts.

"Firstly, there aren't any figures to establish on average that arts students do get >

less money than lawyers. And secondly, arts is not necessarily entirely non-vocational. Employers value arts students because they have academic skills, they can think for themselves. Eighty percent of my students aren't going to become economists, they'll go on to do other things. Vocational skills, and jobs, which result from them can be outdated very quickly, through changes in demand, whereas arts subjects can give you flexibility."

Paul Thom concurs, pointing out that a degree in philosophy can provide skills which employers value highly.

"What the employment agency on campus says is that a lot of employers seek skills which philosophy can teach. Obviously you're not going to be asked if you in an interview with BHP, 'what is Descartes theories of the emotions?' But lots of employers think if you have training in philosophy that you have acquired certain intellectual skills."

Arts, therefore does not necessarily equal a relatively low level of employment. Harrison views the fee structure of the new HECS system as "bizarre."

"I can't view the logic for the way they've set the fee structure," he says. "The way we charge at the moment, we already charge people less who earn less after graduation because HECS is income contingent. You only have to repay it if you earn above average weekly earnings. So, I don't see the reason in having it again in the initial fees. It doesn't make much economic sense. It makes political sense." He says that politically speaking, charging future lawyers a high fee gains political mileage, whereas charging high fees to nurses, whose courses cost more, would be very unpopular.

Why has money become such an important value, to the extent where an arts degree is valued less through its perceived inability to contribute to the market system and individual wealth?

Chris Gregory, who received a masters degree in Economics in 1972, became interested in Anthropology while lecturing economics in Papua New Guinea. He says that the emphasis that Western society places on money is not universal.

"Historically, you can see that the market has become the dominant institutional form in the last couple of hundred years. The market and the nation-state has risen, while the family has shrunk... following the Vietnam War, the market came to be hailed as the panacea to all man's woes."

"And now the language of the market has swept up through the universities, and I'm sad to say the whole language has been accepted pretty much uncritically by academics. What we have here is a new political economy of education. It is a system which is market orientated, profit orientated, male orientated."

Are more students taking certain degrees because of the money that they'll make at the end?

"We're coming into an environment where things are more uncertain. It's natural that they're going to think of the future and try to obtain a degree in something 'useful'."

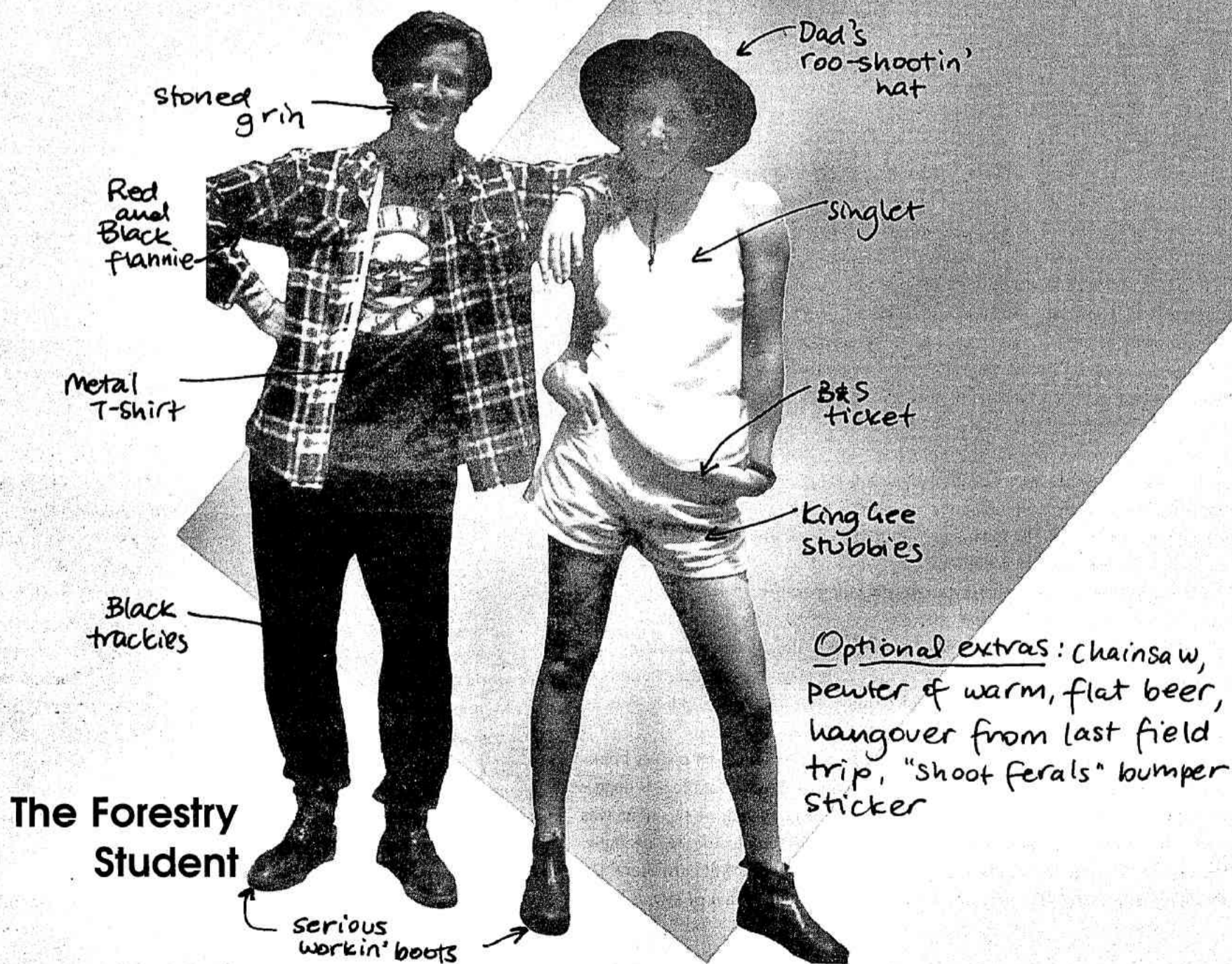
Mark Harrison has perceived a change in his students, many of whom appear to be taking an economics degree with the only objective being the employment gained at the end.

"The good thing about what West said, is that I do believe that university should be 'non-

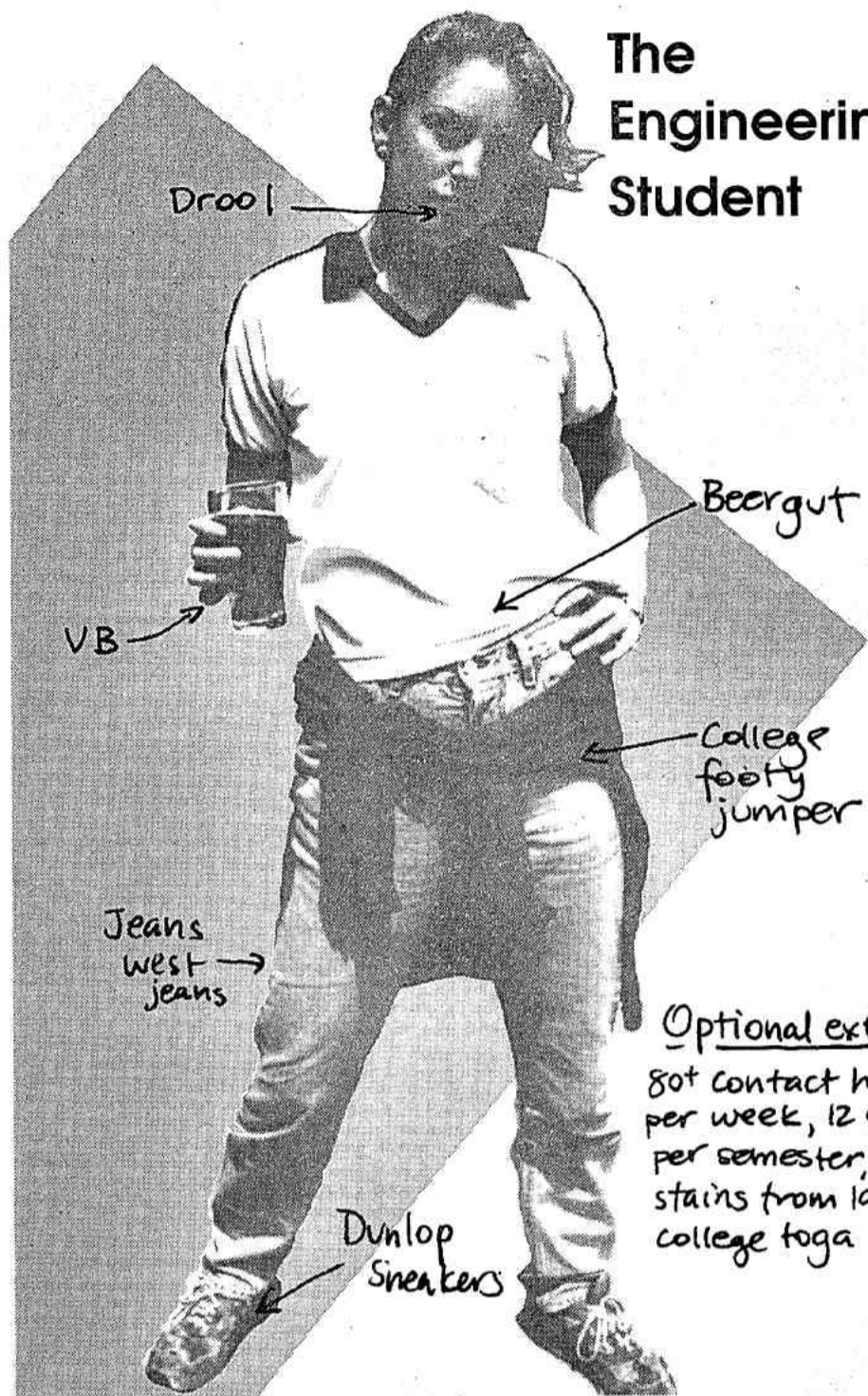
vocational' to the extent that it should be a place where academic thought takes place. When I teach my students, I am not thinking about how to get them a job, rather, I am trying to get them to think critically, for themselves, and the economic way of thinking. The way that students think about university now, that it is primarily a place to get a job, is a problem. I set exams now because many students plagiarise in essays. They don't seem to care about the learning. I think it's disappointing. We've lost some of the academic ethos of learning."

The most problematic issue surrounding West's usage of the term "non-

"The way students think that university is primarily a place to get a job is a problem. They don't seem to care about learning."



The Engineering Student



Optional extras:

80+ contact hours per week, 12 exams per semester, unit stains from last college toga party

ditional" is that it extends into fears (or the case of some, hopes) that academic thought be restricted to the higher echelons of society.

Kelly believes that West is looking towards Oxford and Cambridge for inspiration.

"Although I don't believe that he studied at Oxford or Cambridge, he did seem to me to have that notion of an exclusivist, which offers a liberal education to a segment of society — usually to the rich, and the elite. A certain number of scholarship winners from the lower classes will be accepted of course, and these people become the mandarins and leaders of society."

As Peter Switzer, economic writer for *The Weekend Australian* crudely observed, "a university is stacked with academics who personally support many of the high-brow sentiments of West". Kelly, Thom, Gregory and Harrison all stated that a university should be a place where critical thought takes place. Where people learn to think for themselves. But is that really such a "high-brow" sentiment?

Arts, perhaps the most "non-vocational" of subjects (aside from pure maths) is certainly "vocational" from an employers perspective. And the value of an arts degree is not strictly monetary. It benefits society as a whole.

"A university should be a nuisance," says Kelly. "I think a university should be judged by the amount of dissidents, critics and radicals it produces. I don't think we can have too many critics. Partly because of the amount of criticism need to change the behaviour of institutions. Those ancient universities which I think Roderick West idealises produced their share of people who made the power bloc uncomfortable. That's what an arts degree can do, and should do, in order to benefit other people."

Gregory agrees.

"One doesn't have to accept the values of the elite. In fact, I think it's an obligation, and that's one of the jobs of a university, to challenge them, and not accept them uncritically. Because dominant values have a social function."

Senator Vanstone's office was unavailable for comment.

unibar



UNLESS STATED "ALL AGES", SHOWS ARE FOR OVER 18'S AND I.D MUST BE SHOWN

FRI 28 FEB UPSTAIRS

PHANTASY DANCE PARTY

FRI 28 FEB DOWNSTAIRS

BIRDSEED + 78 SAAB + VELVETEEN

SAT 01 MAR DAY SHOW [12:00 TO 6:30PM] ALL AGES

LIQUID + MINDPUDDLE + SWIM + THE MIGHTY FEW + CABOOSE + PETUEY

SAT 01 MAR NIGHT SHOW [8:00 TO 12:30AM]

THE GADFLYS

THU 06 MAR + DOMINGO

THE DIRTY THREE

FRI 07 MAR

FUNKY, ACID, AFRO, LOUNGE

SAT 08 MAR C.D LAUNCH

CRUMPET

PLUTOASTIA + CUSS + CLOSET KLESMAR

THU 13 MAR

JAZZ N JUGS

SAT 15 MAR

HENRY'S ANGER + NAIAD + COLLISION + CRANE NUMBER 6

THU 20 MAR TICKETS ON SALE NOW

THEY MIGHT BE GIANTS

FRI 21 MAR RADIO 2XX CONCERT

TURNING UP 20

SAT 22 MAR CD LAUNCH

DOMINGO

THU 27 MAR

THE MARK OF CAIN

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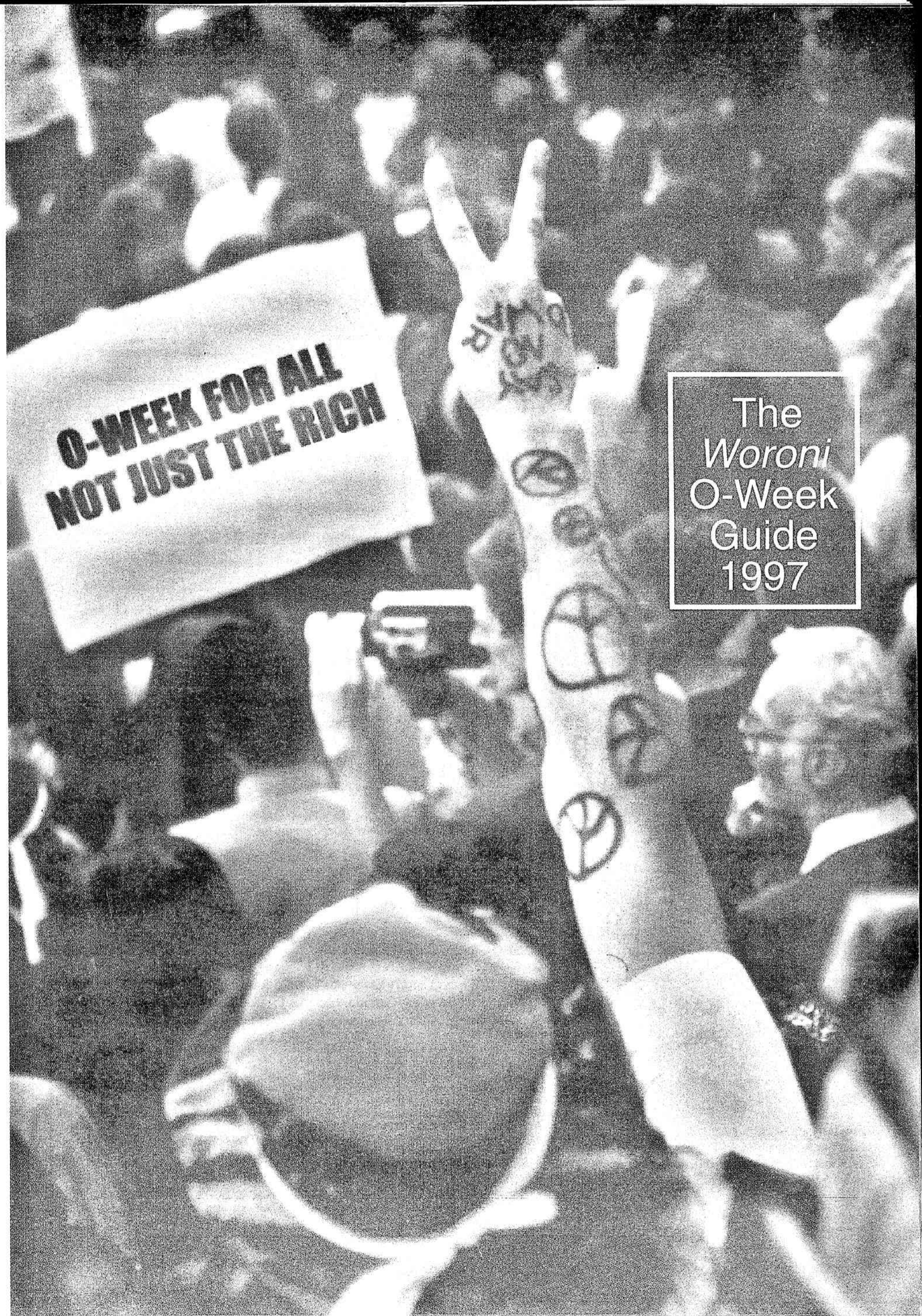
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**O-WEEK FOR ALL
NOT JUST THE RICH**

The
Woroni
O-Week
Guide
1997

Monday

1.00pm Introductory lecture at Llewellyn Hall with a welcome from the Vice Chancellor

The introductory lecture is your welcome to the ANU. It is attended by many new students and is the official opening to the academic year.

This is also the official opening to O-Week. **After lecture Campus Orientation Tours**

These tours will commence immediately after the introductory lecture from the Llewellyn Hall. Taken by friendly, engaging, good-looking and healthy SRC or Student Union members, this magical mystery tour will show you the sights of the ANU campus, plus give you the chance to collect Student Survival Kits and student diaries.

3.00 – 5.00pm Free O-Week BBQ sponsored by Mooseheads

Every day of the O-Week there will be free BBQs. These are proudly sponsored by Mooseheads, a resident Civic pub with a laid back, Uni kind of atmosphere. For the vegos out there, you will also be looked after with salads, grilled onion and veggie sausages.

3.00 – 5.00pm Happy Hour at the Uni Bar

This is your bar. During the week there are heaps of events at the Uni Bar such as Happy hour, pool comps and the Initiation Party. This culminates in SWOT on Friday night, a line up of great local bands like Birdseed, The John Reed Club and the recent winners of the National campus Band Competition, 78 Saab. Through the year, you will find that the Uni Bar provides us with much inspiration, love and consolation, as well as a line up of the top bands on the national circuit and (of course) very cheap drinks.

The Uni Bar is open 12 pm 'til late every night of the week.

5.30pm Revolution and Poetry Progressive poetry with an opening talk on William Blake in the Uni Bar.

7.00pm UC & ANU combined City Nite with pick up from Union Court by free ACTION buses

For the first time in history, the University of Canberra and the ANU are combining for an O-Week event. City Nite should basically be a very long bar crawl. At 7.00pm ACTION buses will do several pick ups from the ANU to take people to the UC to hang out at their bar

where pool shall be played and ale downed. From 8.00pm, ACTION buses will return to bring everyone back to our bar for a spell, whereupon Civic will become the new destination. In Civic there will be many a bar, pub and club to manoeuvre between, all of which will give special deals between certain times. T-Shirts will be available for a minimal tariff, but will reap returns in alcohol as they are recognised by each bar. A horn will be used to warn the masses to head for the next pub... to run... to stagger... to crawl to the night's end.

The SRC are completely opposed to binge drinking and take absolutely no responsibility for the morning after...

12.00 – 2.00pm Free O-Week BBQ sponsored by Mooseheads (vegetarians catered for)

12.00 – 2.00pm Local Funk & Jazz Bands:

12pm Adam Bishop Quartet 1pm Elephunk 2pm Cuss

12.00 – 2.00pm Happy Hour in the Uni Bar

12.00 – 2.00pm Women's picnic 8.00pm 'til late Initiation Party

This is a party to welcome all new students to the ANU. You will meet 800 other first years, dance, drink (which of course is optional), play and hopefully, yes... also be initiated! Don't be afraid. If you don't know a single person in



Market Day in Union Court

All day sign up for Murder II run by the ANURPS, the ANU Role Playing Society

Tuesday

10.00am Information session for people from the bush

11.00 – 4.00pm O-Week Fair

Jumping castles, giant bouncy slippery slides, funk & jazz, fairy floss and free food — sound like fun? Well, come on down to the fair. You can also find Student Survival Kits and diaries if you missed out earlier in O-Week.

Sign up for Murder II

12.00 – 1.00pm Wine and cheese for Asian studies students in the Asian studies building

Canberra, this is definitely the place to be to meet one, and if you do know people, then bring them along. Meet new people, make new friends and be initiated.

Wednesday

7.00 – 10.00am Telstra Big Breakfast

Our wonderful friends at Telstra love you all so much that they have given us copious amount of money to provide you with champagne, croissants, fruit platters, plates, cups, cutlery and service all for free! The breakfast will be outside to encourage all to soak up the fresh morning air. Also, on Fellows Oval, you will be able to experience what you have never experienced before — an almost free (\$3.00) balloon ride.

7.00 – 10.00am Hot Air Balloon Rides from Fellows Oval

9.00 – 5.00pm Market Day

This is the day of all days during O-Week. It is the day when all of the clubs and societies around the campus crawl from beneath their respective rocks and meet in Union Court for a day of business and festivities. Festivities will include an all day 2XX broadcast from Union Court, free food and of course free live (and local) bands Velveten, Tangerine and more. So, if you want to be anyone, get involved in anything or even just join any club or soc, be there.

Live local bands in Union Court:

10 am Joyaa 11am c-baf 12 pm Velveten 1 pm Tangerine 2 pm Flying Gurnard 3 pm Elephunk 4pm Caboose

All day Live broadcast by 2XX

Sign up for Murder II

12.00 – 2.00pm Free O-Week BBQ

Sponsored by Mooseheads with veggie sausages and salads brought to you by the SA

1.00pm FOCUS Public meeting and talk "Trust No-one" Hayden Allen Tank

2.00pm Pub debate at the Uni Bar fun and frolics of the cerebral kind

3.00pm "What is Resistance?" in Union Court

From 6.00pm Chill night at the Uni Bar

A night to relax and chill out. Have a free game of pool, have a drink (if you're still game after the first 2 nights) and watch some cool Jackie Chan and Manga films — All without leaving the comfort of your own campus.

7.00pm Martial Arts Demonstration Rojo Room above Sports Union 7.00pm Tae Kwon Do, 7:15pm Karate

7.15 pm Free students barbecue

8.00 pm Campus Christian Concert by the Apolstolic Christian Fellowship

Thursday

8.00—6.00pm Private Bin Sports Day

Sporting events will be running all day long. Everything from hacky competitions (Kathmandu prizes!) to football, from Magic to



Join The ANU Student Exchange Program and Begin Study Overseas From Semester II 1997 in

USA Germany Sweden Canada Austria France Japan Singapore England

The International Education Office is calling for applications from ANU students interested in study overseas from second semester 1997.

- Undertake study overseas at an exchange partner institution and have that study counted towards your ANU degree.
- Open to all undergraduate and graduate ANU students.
- You may be eligible for Austudy or scholarships for the period you are away. The International Education Office has limited bursaries that may be available to assist ANU exchange students in need.
- Undergraduate students should have completed at least one academic year at the ANU and achieved a credit average or better in their studies. Priority will be given to students who can study overseas for a full academic year.
- No tuition fees are payable overseas — you pay GSE, HECS (or tuition fees for international students) and your own travel, accommodation, living expenses.
- Students enrolled in a European language major should also contact the Department of Modern European Languages.

Special information Seminar — 12.30pm Friday 14 March 1997, Chancery Annex Meeting Room, ANU

For further information and application details please contact the International Relations Officer, International Education Office, Chancery Annex. Telephone 249 4643; fax: 249 5550; email: <Head.IEO@anu.edu.au>

ram

rock climbing, frisbees to fencing and Theatre Sports to drag racing. There will also be 3-legged races, egg & spoon races, games for the mind like Magic card tournaments and Chess competitions and sports of the more traditional kind. Prizes are free-flowing, so come and get your cut — detailed programmes of events will be available during O-Week. Just make sure you turn up to an event or sign up for a team on Market Day. Of course, this is thanks to the Private Bin nightclub in Civic.

Murder II begins (by ANURPS)

9.00am – 5pm Mountaineering Club working the climbing wall, sports union

10.00am – 12.00pm Womens climbing group

11.00am Hackey Sac competition

11.00am – 12.00pm Fencing display in union court

12.00 – 4.00pm Coca-Cola Beach Party

We are having two enormous truckloads of sand and ten pools shipped onto the ANU grounds! Beach volleyball and "The Beach Boys" will be the order of the party. Iced Coke will be served on the sand, so put on your swimmers, bring your towel and come and relax on the campus beach.

12.00 – 2.00pm Free O-Week BBQ Sponsored by Mooseheads

(which will cater for vegetarians)

12.00pm – 2.00pm Tug-of-war, 3-legged race & sack race

12.00 – 2.00pm Free badminton in Sports Hall

12.30 – 1.30pm Aikido Demonstration in Rojo Room above Sports Union

1.00pm Speaker Ben Halliday at GO51

On the topic 'Why should you join the Socialist Workers Student Club?'

1.00pm Psychology Society BBQ

1.00 – 3.00 pm Law Students Society picnic, Law School lawns

2.00pm 1997 ANU Drag Race

The cross-dressing race of the year in Union Court, open to males and females. Major Prize is an all expenses paid trip to the snow from STA Travel, Civic.

2.30pm Exhibition debate in Manning Clark

Topic: "that Uni is a waste of time"

3.00pm "What is Resistance?" in Union Court

6:30pm Judo Demonstration in Dojo Room above Sports Union

6.30 – 1.00am Intercoll Bar Slug It's legendary. Don't miss it.

7.00 – 9.00 pm Kendo demonstration

in the Dojo Room above Sports Union

Friday

8.00am – 6.00pm All Day Picnic

Bring a rug, lay back and relax. Listen to our busker's festival with their dulcet tones, have a bite to eat and enjoy the summer weather!

Murder II continues...

10.00am – 2.00pm Buskers Festival around the campus

12.00 – 3.00pm Free O-Week BBQ by Mooseheads.

Vegetarians catered for. Come and meet your SRC.

1:30pm Politics at the Picnic.

Hear from campus polities of all persuasions

5.00pm Critical Mass leaving from Union Court.

Unite with the rest of the world in this cycling extravaganza.

6.00pm Get on home

to get ready for the biggest (glam) dance party the campus has ever seen.

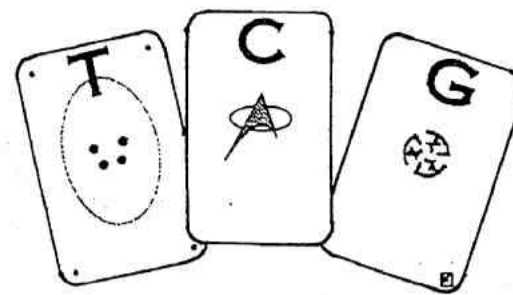
8.30 onward PHANTASY

A little bit sexy, a little bit weird, a little bit kinky and very very glam. Sponsored by Heaven, this is the event of the week. Filling three rooms will be erotic dancers, lolly pops, smoke, mirror balls, mystery and absolute Phantasy. Everyone welcome and everyone wanted! The party continues at HEAVEN nightclub upstairs in Garema place until the early hours.

SWOT for live music at the Uni Bar

Birdseed, The John Reed Club, 78 Saab (recent winners of the National campus Band competition)

O-Week '97



Tradeable Card Games

meets 5:30–9 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays in the Asian Bistro. Sponsored by The Logical Choice and Card Capital Trading Cards and Accessories.

Join in the

Inaugural Sports Day Drag Race in Union Court at 2 p.m. on Thursday 27 February. See the O-Week program for more details.

Brought to you by

the ANU Sexuality Department — phone 279 8514.

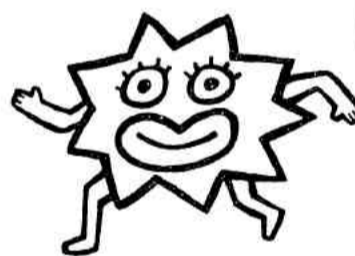
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	TEACHING YEAR	\$90.00
	PER MONTH (or part thereof)	\$10.00

Note — new payment option: Full time students enrolled in graduate courses may elect to purchase either a staff or a student permit. Payment by payroll deduction is available from 17 February 1997 for students who have their scholarship paid through the University payroll system.

Warwick Williams
Director

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AND MORE!

Available from the Unicon stall on Market Day.

Clubs & Societies

AMIDA

PAULINE HANSON IS RIGHT-wing! Interested in having a say in your nation's future? Or perhaps you just like seeing your name in print? If so, you need to get involved with *AMIDA*. We are a student paper, based at the ANU and we distribute to other universities. Through *AMIDA* you can get into writing, publishing, photography, advertising, the net, employment and mix with some quite strange and exciting people. In short, funk like you've never funk'd before! We are keen for new input from individuals of any size, shape, colour, sex or religion. No experience necessary. If these concepts are remotely enticing, please don't hesitate to drop in to the Students' Association; above the Uni-Bar, or call Matt or Nick on (06) 249 2444. Better still, come to our first meeting for 1997, at the Asian Bistro, 5pm Tuesday, 4th March. See you there.

the ANU Debating Society

The Debating Society is one of the largest and most active clubs at the ANU, with a membership of over 250 it provides a range of social and debating activities. The first semester internal competition provides an excellent opportunity for those with little or no debating experience to become involved in the society.

In addition to internal debates the society also sends teams to competitions at other universities around Australia and overseas including the novice Intervarsity to be held in Melbourne over Easter and the World Debating Championships to be held in Greece at the end of this year. There will also be a number of exhibition debates on

controversial issues during the year, featuring well-known speakers as well as members of the Society

Campus Amateur Dramatic Society (CADS)

CADS, the Campus Amateur Dramatic Society, exists to provide an avenue for student generated performance on campus and around Canberra. CADS is an accessible organisation that allows members the opportunity to create and produce their own work, or to gain experience under the tutelage of some of Canberra's most respected directors.

Theatresports, Short Pieces evenings, a mainstage production in conjunction with Eulea Kiraly of The Company, and Shmooze, CADS's infamous cocktail party, are just a taste of what's ahead in 1997. CADS also hopes to incorporate dance workshops and performance for the first time this year.

If you'd like to get involved, find the CADS stall in O-Week. We are also looking for Theatresports players for low key competition in O-Week. Contact Fiona Gregory on 248 6065 for details.

ANU Fencing Club

The ANU Fencing Club is dedicated to the enjoyment and promotion of the ancient art of fencing at both the social and competitive levels. Fencing develops both physical and mental agility in a way few other sports can, and demands good sportsmanship and fair play. Club members enjoy social fencing on club nights (Tuesdays and Thursdays 7:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m. in the Gym) as well as regular novice/open competitions with fencers from in and around Canberra. Members also have the opportunity to represent the ANU Club at the University games (highly recommended), as well as the NSW and National Championships. The Club offers beginners and intermediate classes in Épée, Foil and Sabre, in mixed or womens' classes. Other social activities include dinners, fencing movies, and a Duel at Dawn! Anyone interested in joining should contact Adam Wells on 2493645 (w) 2479315 (h) or Anna Robinson on 251 3506 (h) or Alison King on 249 4032 (w) 247 5428 (h).

the Europa Club

This may be our first year as an official ANU club but we plan on beginning 1997 with a BANG. Contrary to popular belief, "the big bang" is in fact the Cocktail Party to be jointly hosted by us, Der CDA and Le Collectif Francais on Thursday 6th March at 7:30pm. Other events in the pipeline include The Europa Cup, a soccer tournament for young and old, a European Trivia Night, a coast trip and Eurofest 1997, our end of year bash. So don't be ashamed to call yourself a Europhile and/or to admit you do not study an Asian language. Join the Europa Club on Market Day and check our special member-

ship deals with Der CDA and Le Collectif Francais. Our club is not only for language students but is especially aimed at students of European Studies, a program unique to the ANU.

Action In Solidarity with East Timor (ASIET CLUB)

The Suharto dictatorship in Indonesia, which came to power in 1965-66 through a massacre of 500 000 to a and million "communists", and invaded East Timor in 1975 — killing about one third of the population over the next ten years, is one of the most repressive regimes in Asia. Despite the harassment, gaoling and murder of those who defy the regime, more Indonesians are challenging Suharto's "New Order" than ever. Action in Solidarity with Indonesia and East Timor (ASIET) is the solidarity network in Australia building support for the pro-democracy movement, students' movement and workers' movement in Indonesia, as well as the national liberation movement in East Timor. ASIET's activities include sponsoring speaking tours by Indonesian activists, raising money for legal defence campaigns, keeping Australians informed about the situation in Indonesia and East Timor and building actions such as rallies and speakouts. Look for the ASIET stall during O-Week.

ANU Australian Football Club

The ANUFC trains and plays at South Oval on the ANU Campus. The club fields three teams in the ACTAFL Canberra District Competition, and has been Division 1 Premiers in 1993 '94 '95 and '96. The Club's main purpose is to provide ANU Students with the opportunity to represent the University in Australian Football at the highest level possible but also to get people playing and supporting. Players of any age, fitness, size shape or experience are encouraged to come and have a go. The ANU AFC is also a very social club. Several functions are held throughout the year. All prospective players are encouraged to begin training as soon as possible. We train at South Oval at 6 00pm on Mondays and Wednesday, although that will change to Tuesdays and Thursdays when the season begins. Look for our table at Market Day, or call Doug Williams on 2580307 if you need any further info.

ANU Navigators

"Community", "authenticity" and "influence" are key words for the ANU Navigators. Jesus spoke strongly in favour of community, one with real relationships, authentic in love, respect and serving each other. He also argued against superficial relationships with God, ones where outward actions hide a deceitful heart. And He spoke to His

followers about influencing their friends and people around them by their authenticity with each other and with God. ANU Navigators are students on campus who are trying to have authentic relationships with each other, and with God, so that they can influence other students on campus. We meet each Tuesday night for dinner, and for a time of sharing. We follow Jesus' example of training and small group teaching. For more details ph: Stuart. on 241 3511; Emma, on 254 3541; or Owen on 288 1575.

ANU Men's & Women's Hockey Clubs

ANU Men's Hockey Club, with eleven teams in the nine grades of local competition, and ANU Women's Hockey Club, with seven teams in the eight grades, are the largest men's and women's hockey clubs in Canberra, and among the largest sports clubs at ANU. Competition standards in both clubs range from 1st grade, to more social levels. Competitions for the Men are run on synthetic midweek (Wed/Thu evenings), Friday evenings, Saturday afternoon and evening and Sunday morning, and on grass on Saturday afternoon. Competitions for the Women are held on Sunday afternoon/evening on synthetic and Saturday afternoon on grass. Training, for those wishing to attend, is once a week with additional fitness training on Monday evenings at ANU. Social events are also frequent throughout the year, giving both clubs a chance to mix. Registration forms are available from the Men's and Women's Hockey Club's pigeon holes at the Sports Union, or for further information contact: For the Women's club: Verity McWilliam on 201 8909 (w) 288 1272 (h) or Rachael Krizaic on 018 230 2495 For the men's club: Andrew Duncan on 240 8823 (w) 282 1269 (h) or Gareth Cook 283 2541 (w) 247 9442 (h)

EKTA — the Indian Subcontinents Students Association

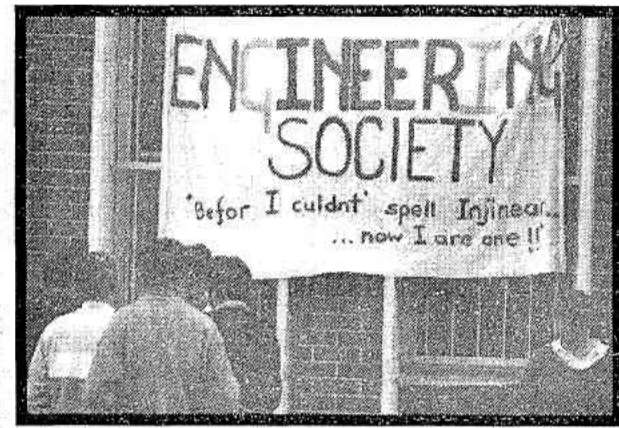
Join Ekta in 1997 and get to know your fellow ANU students from all over the subcontinent. With over 80 members last year, our numerous Bhangara dance parties were a huge success and were also a great place to meet new people. Ekta also held a formal dinner during the course of the year and trips to Wonderland and the snow are being considered for the midsemester break. Movies, with free admission, in various languages are screened regularly on campus. Ekta also subscribes regularly to *Filmfare*, *Sportstar* and other magazines from the subcontinent for members to borrow free of charge so that they can keep up with the latest in movies, fashion and sport. Everyone is welcome to



Some clubs have boat races.



a couple of clubs hold debates,



but what the hell does the Engineering Society do?

become a member, so join and broaden your horizons. Contact Pinki Godara 2420510 for further information.

Narcissus

Narcissus is the publication of the ANU Literary Society. It is a student run, arts and literary magazine based in the English Department, that seeks to publish the original work of aspiring authors. It is usually produced twice a year with a distribution of over a thousand copies. We accept contributions of poetry, short prose, artwork, graphics and reviews. Submissions may be presented on disc or paper, and dropped into our pigeon hole at the English Department, or mailed to us C/-The English Department. Authors and artists retain all copyright to their work. You will find us at Market Day and we have regular activities for performance poetry at local cafes, pubs, and at Gorman House. Our annual launch is at Tilley's.

Psychology Society

Are you interested in psychology? Do you like socialising with people of similar interests? Want to know where psychology can take you? Well, the ANU Psychological Society offers an opportunity to become involved in psychology and social activities beyond lectures, tuts and pracs. It all begins in O-Week, where there will be the chance to meet other psychology students at a FREE barbecue after the introductory lecture! Other activities to be held this year include; a champagne breakfast, excursions, movie nights, more BBQs and the infamous gourmet picnic. The society will keep you up to date with the quarterly newsletter, and also will hold career oriented seminars. Come and see us at our O-week Market Day stall. We promise not to analyse you!

Der Club der Deutschsprachigen der ANU

For all speakers of German, ie. students, teachers, lecturers, ex-pats, exchange students, Germophiles... this club is for YOU. Der CDA is a very active club and intends on holding film nights, coast trips, Kaffe und Kuchen Nachmittags, regular conversation in German at a local pub, ski trip... Our regular magazine, QUARK, will bring you all the latest goss as well as the opportunity to practice your reading and writing skills. The biggest event of the year will again be our play. The play provides the perfect opportunity for you to get involved and practice your German and Drama skills under the bright lights! This year we will also be working on a number of joint projects with the Europa Club and Le Collectif Franais. Our special O-Week membership package includes a subscription to QUARK, a 1997 Club t-shirt and FREE entry to our cocktail party, all for

one low price—\$35!!!! For more details come to our stall on Market Day!

ANU Rover Society

For those of you who think Scouts are small boys in silly uniforms, we have news for you. Scouting in Australia is a youth organisation catering for both male and female members aged from 6 to 26. In particular, Rovers is the section geared towards 17-26 year-olds. Rovering is about outdoor activities of all kinds from bushwalking to rock climbing to just playing games, but there's more to it than that. Rovers also engage in a number of indoor pursuits and give service in various ways to the other parts of the Scout movement and to the community at large. The ANU Rover Society is a new idea aimed at helping uni students become and stay involved in Rovering. At our stall on market day you'll find representatives of the local Rover Crew as well as information on all of Canberra's other Crews. So whether you've been a Scout before or not, come and see us and talk about joining the world's largest and best known youth organisation.

the ANU SCUBA Diving Club

The ANUSC has been operating for a long time. I've heard over twenty years mentioned by some, which makes us one of the oldest affiliated clubs in the ANU Sports Union. We dive excellent sites with experienced divers at what must be the cheapest price around. We camp wherever possible to reduce costs, and often manage to stay in some delightful national park camping areas. We dive the coast from the Victorian border up to the North coast of NSW, and usually run a dive expedition up to the Great Barrier reef in the winter months. So, come down for a few jaunts to the coast and enjoy yourself! It only costs \$5.00 for ANU students and \$10.00 for ANU Sports Union members to join the club. You can sign up during the O-week stall, or contact our Publicity Officer — Jason Haines (Ph: 279 8175 or Email: Jason.Haines@anu.edu.au) for more details.

Socialist Worker Student Club

If you hate war, racism, sexism and homophobia; and think Labor and Liberal only rule for the rich; if you hate politics being reduced to ticking a box once every three years, then join the *Socialist Worker Student Club*. SWSC is for all those who think the system stinks, and who want to be part of building a socialist alternative. At the ANU, SWSC has played a central role in the fight against up-front fees and HECS increases, and against the racism of Hanson and the Liberals. We've demonstrated against John Howard when he came to speak on campus. We've been active in building the cam-

paign against racism, and in building the International Women's Day march on March 8. We believe the capitalist system is to blame for unemployment and poverty, not the unemployed and poor themselves. The system is in crisis and we have to fight to change it. Come up to the stall in Union Court on market day, or come to our first meeting of the year — 'The Case For Socialism', at 1pm, Thursday 27 February, in Haydon-Allen G051.

Resistance Club

Ever wondered why the world is so full of problems? There's environmental devastation, racism, and sexism; the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer. In Australia, we have massive cuts and increasing unemployment, education is under attack and we have Johnny Howard as P.M. These problems don't exist in isolation — they're all part of one big problem. The world is run for profit, not for people. As long as capitalism exists, these problems won't go away. We can fight each little battle and win in the short term, but a long term solution requires a strategy to develop a more democratic and equal society. Resistance is a socialist youth organisation which actively campaigns around environmental and human rights issues, but also understands the link between the issues. We aim to win these campaigns but also to bring about long-term change — a revolution! Join us, fight on issues, ask questions, dare to be active, dare to believe the world can change!

Rifle Club

ANU Target Rifle Club has been reformed and would love to hear from people interested in becoming members. ANU Target Rifle Club competes in the sport of Fullbore Target Shooting, which means that participants shoot at bullseye targets at distances between 300 and 1100 metres. Men and women compete together equally. The main club event is the Intervarsity which is to be held in Adelaide this year. Target shooting requires no previous experience and does not require a shooting licence. If anyone is interested they can call Kirk on 2383576 or Nathan on 2994855 or drop by the club display on market day.

ANU Choral Society

Do you like singing and socialising? The ANU Choral Society (SCUNA) is a choir with a reputation for impassioned music-making. It is a great way to meet friendly people who have a lot of fun! The choir consists of about 60 voices and performs 3 major concert each year. You don't need to audition, or even sight read. Just come to rehearsals and camp, and have a go. Exciting Concert programs have been planned for May (Handel "Israel in Egypt"), September (Britten "Rejoice in the Lamb" and R Vaughn Williams, subject to music availability) and early December

("Messiah", Mozart orchestration) including a "concert tour" to Bathurst. Rehearsals are every Wednesday evening, starting 22 Feb, from 7pm 'til 9.30pm in the Crisp Lecture Theatre. Student membership is \$15 per semester (covers music hire and postage). Some of us have dinner first, so join the group of creatively noisy people in the Asian Bistro for pre-rehearsal food from 6pm.

the Society of Biological Sciences

The Society of Biological Sciences is one of the larger societies on campus set up to cater for all students interested in biology, ecology and nature. One of the purposes of setting up the club was to encourage communication between students, lecturers and people from community groups. This networking can be very useful for future employment opportunities. We went on some fun field trips in 1996 to a rainforest, to Jerrabomberra wetlands and on a walk up Black mountain. At Jerrabomberra wetlands shrubs and trees were also planted to aid a revegetation program. We also had talks on a range of topics which enabled students to make contact with lecturers and other students. A work experience program was also set up. All students are welcome to join and we have members from biology, forestry, SREM, Human ecology, and Anthropology.

Women's Soccer Club

OVARIES ANYONE? For a great way to relax from studies and keep fit and meet new people and represent your university and wear sexy (very) shorts and have lots of fun and get very dirty and acquire a new language and religion, and to recharge your lithium crystals and more and more and more, join the ANU Women's Soccer Club. For just \$15 you can play soccer for the whole year in the prestigious ACT Women's competition. We cater for all grades from kick-and-laugh-heartily to World Cup wannabees and training is right here on campus. So if you're keen to make your home away from the books a hoot... rock up to our stall at market day where you'll meet friendly people who'll tell you all about it... or call Sarah 247-0073 or Michelle 247-2966.

ANU Society of Friends and Students of Anthropology

If you are studying Anthropology or if you are just interested in anthropology, join Sofasoa. This society aims to support anthropology students and heighten the understanding of anthropology — but most of all to provide fun and frolics for our members. Call Wholly on 2485422 or see us on Market Day.

Canberra for beginners

Pubs

Phoenix

Only ten minutes from campus, live music, lots of beer — the Phoenix is all you could ask for in a pub especially if you're into the student life. A Bohemian alcoholic's paradise nestled in the heart of the Civic bus interchange, it is the atmosphere and clientele which most recommend this place. If you're into grunge then the Phoenix could be your nirvana.

Essentials: live music, greasy hair, Guinness.

Canberra Workers Club

If the manufactured grunge of the Phoenix is too sanitary for you, then turn toward the genuine filth of the 'Workies'. Spurned by many, this establishment (opposite the Street Theatre at the end of Uni avenue) offers cheap liquor, cheap decor, and cheap thrills. Putting aesthetics aside is the only approach to the Workers Club. Nevertheless, the workies remains popular with a devoted college crowd.

Essentials: beer, sweat and the meat raffle.

Wig and Pen

The quintessential English pub, complete with pickled onions on the bar, counter lunches and house beer. This is the only place in Canberra which has beer you can eat with a spoon. Regular events such as quiz nights and jazz bands make this a haven for the intellectual in all of us. Found halfway between uni and Civic, near the GPO; you can even order chips at your outside table.

Essentials: corduroy, Irish Red, jazz.

Clubs

Bobby McGee's

Hark back to those halcyon days at the nightclub where retro is a religion. Cindi Lauper, Madonna, Jackson 5, Wham — dust off those dancing shoes as Saturday Night Fever hits the dance floor. With staff that sing and dance and decor that will throw you back to Grease, Bobby's is the 'quirkiest' nightclub in Canberra. Monday nights are big, but at other times any female of university age is fair game for the middle-aged public servant clientele.

Essentials: afro wigs, Sub Zero, limbo stick.

Civic

Cast a languid eye over street chess on a sleepy Sunday morning, paper resting on your lap, warm drink nestled in your palm. Garema place is the relaxation capital of civic. A range of cafes provides choice for the coffee connoisseur, all within ten easy walking minutes from uni. A few stand out: Gus's ranks alongside the Bin as an institution, but with far more intrinsic merit. For the voyeuristically inclined, Garema Terrace offers a pleasant view of the bustling court below. Cafe Della Piazza has great food and great coffee and cracks authentically painted on the walls.

Essentials: old friends, new books, hot chocolate.

Manuka

Ahh, Manuka, home of sports cars, mobile phones and Perrier. Young urban professionals abound in this one-street Mecca of the coffee bean. Look on with interest as federal politicians lobby over latte at Caph's, or take in the street atmosphere outside My Cafe. If you can't find a place at one, just stroll to the next — there's little to distinguish each from the other. A high standard of coffee and cakes can be found at any one establishment, though the prices may test the student budget.

Essentials: designer pooch, cappuccino, Daddy's charge card.

Elsewhere

Delicateating—Close to the uni at O'Connor shops: funky fittings, perfect pizzas, and a well-stocked continental deli. Definitely one of the best cafes in Canberra, a culinary high point.

Tilley's—A bit further afield in Lyneham, but definitely one of the places to be seen in Canberra. Originally a women's-only club, Tilley's now stakes its reputation on live entertainment, both musical and theatrical.

Cinemas

Electric Shadows

Art house or arty-farty, you choose. Encase yourself in the twin monocoloured cocoons and enjoy an experience in tunnel vision. These elongated theatres screen the latest foreign films, classic cult movies and low-budget alternatives. With the only affordably priced candy bar in the southern hemisphere and popular all-night marathons, Electric Shadows is the hippest cinema in town. Just don't sit in the back row without your telescope.

Essentials: choc-tops, French dictionary, suede jacket.

Cosmopolitan Twin Cinemas

Located within the bunker-like confines of Woden interchange, Cosmo offers true value for money. Major releases dominate the fairly limited billing but at five dollars for a student ticket, make sure you see them here. Comfortable seats, reasonable candy bar, and kitschy '80s promos recapture that childhood movie magic. Go there and then go somewhere else—the only after-film entertainment is the nearby bowling alley.

Essentials: student card, loose change, popcorn.

Centre Cinema

The film lover's cinema. Seek entertainment and a unique history lesson as you descend into the foyer lined with classic movie moments. This is where you can see the films you missed at other cinemas, the Rocky Horror Picture Show, and many of the latest Asian films. The warm woody atmosphere of Canberra's largest single theatre is complemented by reclining seats that caress your buttocks. Canberra's most comfortable cinema.

Essentials: redskins, David Stratton, slip-off shoes.



The 333 will soon become your trusted friend. It will take you express from Civic to either Belconnen, Tuggeranong or Woden every 15 minutes.

ACTION is the cruelly ironic title of Canberra's local bus service. Known for its dearth of after hours services and the menacing urban decay of its Interchanges, ACTION is a Canberra institution. This year ACTION have

removed the requirement of obtaining an ACTION Concession Card, depriving students of the pleasurable experience of haggling with ACTION bus drivers about the validity of ANU student cards.

Heaven

This is where cultures collide, as rednecks lean lazily against pool tables, nearby spandex-clad, open minded young people gyrate on the dancefloor. Gay friendly, but not exclusive, Heaven also offers a variety of theme nights ranging from bondage to drag shows. Located upstairs in Garema place, Heaven is renowned for having the best dance music in Canberra. Dare to be different.

Essentials: leather, recreational substances, funky moves.

The Private Bin

Puzzlingly, this is a Canberra institution. Canberra's original nightclub retains its pulling power; would-be patrons gather outside hoping desperately for admittance to this den of sin. Members of Her Majesty's Armed Forces abound, draped over conveniently placed couches ideal for drunken make-out sessions. The proud venue of the Miss Nightclub A.C.T. competition, the Bin also provides a varied range of entertainment for its regulars from swimsuit competitions to a weekly comedy night. Warning: attendance may damage credibility.

Essentials: tight jeans, rum and coke, libido.

By Jess Coates, Dan Silkstone, and Owen Larkin

Cafes

If you come from the country, Canberra may seem like a thriving metropolis. If you come from another city, you know it isn't. There certainly aren't infinite entertainment possibilities in the nation's capital, but if you know the places to go you may just survive your stay... and even enjoy yourself.

Restaurants

Lee's Inn

The jewel in the crown of Manuka. This place has it all: cheap food, cheap drinks, questionable decor. This is the sort of Chinese restaurant that says more about the culture of Australia than China. The food is great and the low, low prices (not to mention generous helpings) makes it even better. Grab as many friends as you can and head out for the ultimate five dollar banquet.

Essentials: Large appetite; large stomach, baggy waisted trousers.

Rama's

Out of the way in leafy Pearce, this is a trip worth taking. Fijian influences make this an Indian restaurant with a difference. In the faceless, nameless society of the nineties, stand back in astonishment as the staff remember not only your name but what your great aunt had for dessert last time she came by. Also, the food tastes good.

Essentials: Bottle of wine, fire-retardant tongue, friendly smile.

Sammy's Kitchen

Incinerate your taste buds with the Mi Goreng; tantalise your tonsils with sweet honey prawns; flavour reigns supreme. Raise your voice above the restless crowd in the bustling, metropolitan atmosphere. Food is everything, but you may have to wait for it. Dishes this tasty don't always come quick or cheap.

Essentials: booking, Chicken Laksa, loud friends.

Montezuma's Mexican Restaurant

More than a restaurant: raise the Mexican flag to call your waiter, drink wine from a cowhide bag, indulge in a tequila slammer as the wacky band plays 'dada dada da da da Tequila!'. They also serve food. Watch in amazement as the house magician at Philip sticks a card to the roof—we're not sure what this has to do with Mexico, but it's fun.

Essentials: rowdy crowd, sombrero, iron gut.

Book Shops

Electric Shadows Bookshop

This well-stocked shop shares with its sister cinema an alternative sensibility, specialising in the hard to find. There's plenty here for the fan of pop culture, with strong music, cinema and art sections. If you are interested in gay and lesbian literature Electric Shadows deserves a browse. Out the back is Canberra's most interesting video library and store, featuring classic, foreign language and Australian films.

Essentials: movie ticket, spare time, VCR in working order.

Smith's Alternative Books

If Kafka lived in Canberra, he'd be found muttering to himself in a corner of Smith's. Lured inside by trestle tables supporting a smorgasboard of books, would-be intellectuals and hippies gaze longingly through their fringes at the eccentric offerings. This is the ultimate browse bookshop; you may not find what you're looking for but you may find something better.

Essentials: working knowledge of Foucault, spectacles, love beads.

Australian National University
COMMENCEMENT SERVICE
 1997

Wednesday 5th March at 5.30pm

Rehearsal Room 3
 School of Music

William Herbert Place
 (off Childers Street)

Speakers: *Professor Richard Campbell*
Mr William Mackerras

Organist: *Christopher Lancaster*

Music: *Olov Palmqvist*

Organised by ANU Chaplaincy. Enquiries to David Oliphant or
 Brendan McPhillips on 249 4246

ALL WELCOME

Prayers will be offered for the whole University Community.

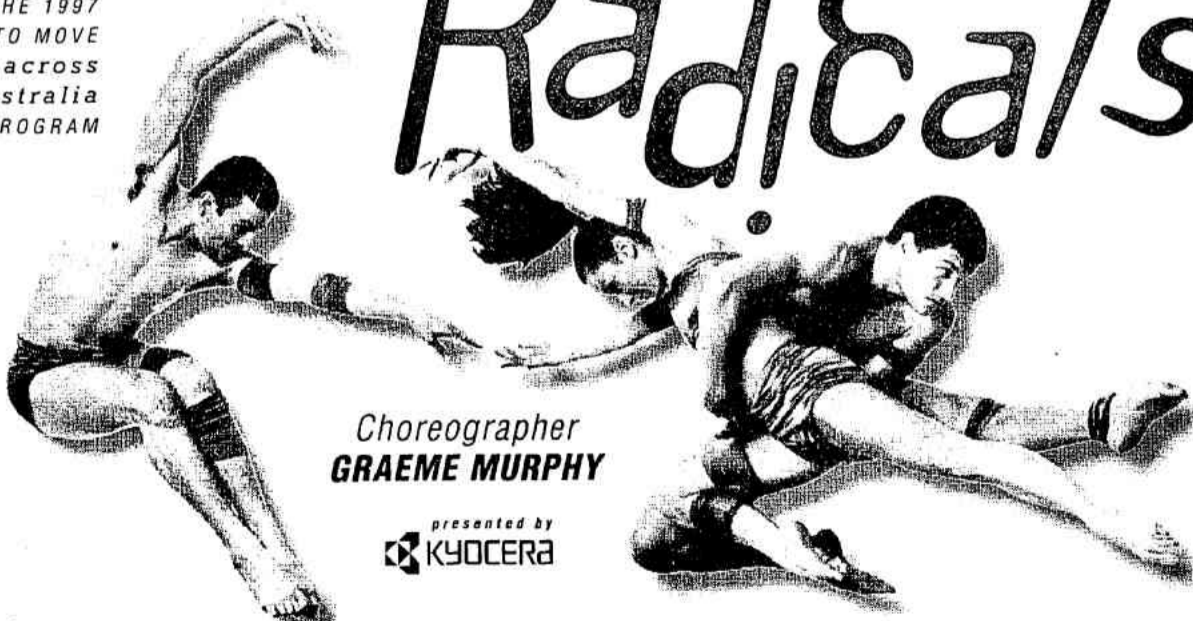
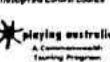
The CANBERRA THEATRE TRUST presents...

Sydney Dance Company's

production of

Free Radicals

PART
 OF THE 1997
 MADE TO MOVE
 dance across
 australia
 PROGRAM



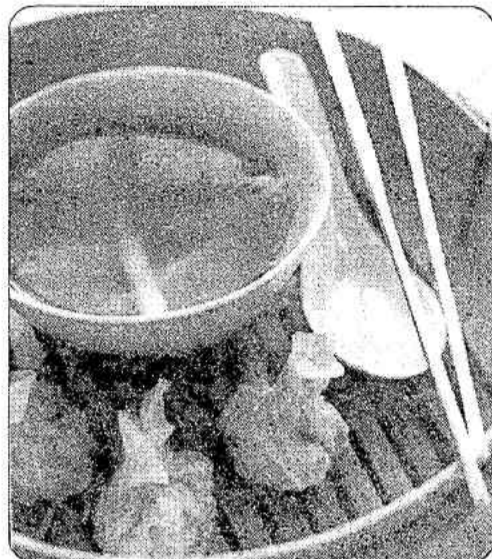
Choreographer
GRAEME MURPHY

presented by
KYOCERA

4-8 March - Canberra Theatre

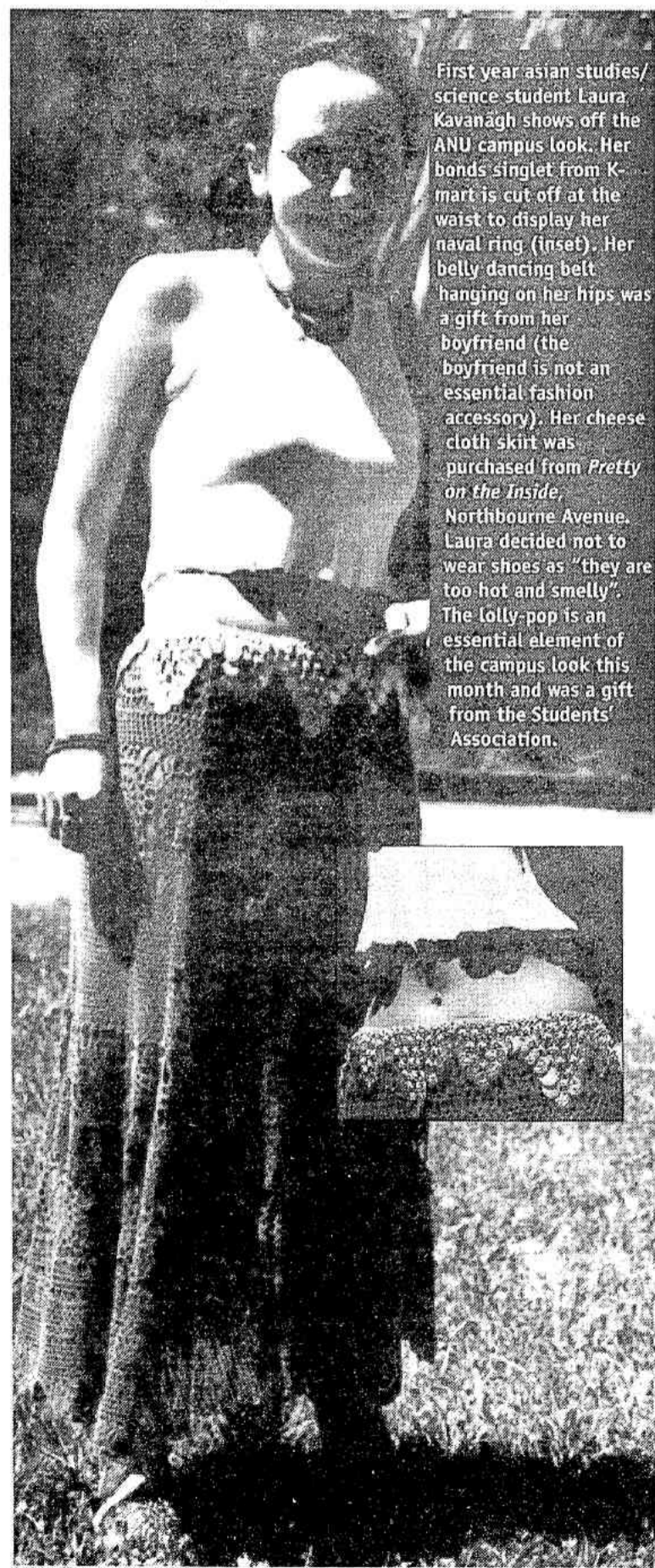
CALL CANBERRA TICKETING ON 257 1077

food



(above) The Vietnam Restaurant always uses fresh produce

campus look



First year asian studies/science student Laura Kavanagh shows off the ANU campus look. Her bonds singlet from K-mart is cut off at the waist to display her naval ring (inset). Her belly dancing belt hanging on her hips was a gift from her boyfriend (the boyfriend is not an essential fashion accessory). Her cheese cloth skirt was purchased from *Pretty on the Inside*, Northbourne Avenue. Laura decided not to wear shoes as "they are too hot and smelly". The lolly-pop is an essential element of the campus look this month and was a gift from the Students' Association.

Vietnam Restaurant: Friendly, tasty, cheap

eating out

Take a turn through Civic and Manuka and you are struck by the Canberra diner's desire to observe and to be observed. Any restaurant worth its tapenade is more window than wall, whilst pavements from Tharwa to Gungahlin are rapidly being claimed by the market umbrella and the stackable table.

To truly savour the fare of a restaurant and the company of friends it is necessary, however, to reject from time to time the play of the meal as public entertainment.

The Vietnam restaurant allows the focus of the diner to shift from the public to the private. Situated in the basement, the diners are temporarily removed from the outside world, in a place where serenity rather than frenzy is the driving force.

Whilst subterranean, the restaurant rejects all sense of the cavernous. Expanses of yellow and white washed walls produce a light and airy feel. Upon being seated we were supplied with prawn crackers and water and allowed time to consider

the menu. And the menu requires some consideration, with six soups, seven entrees, and over forty mains. The entrees and mains are centred around chicken, beef, pork and seafood. There is one vegetarian entree and four specific vegetarian mains.

Entree are \$2-\$4 and main meals average \$8. We chose a mixed entree of spring rolls, pork balls, and prawn paste on bread. The latter was the most interesting offering — the distinctive flavour of the prawn paste combined nicely with the sharp texture

of fried bread.

We were soon sampling our main meals, during which the manager supplied us with some delicious Vietnamese tea and told us a little of the distinctive nature of Vietnamese cuisine. In his restaurant the fresh produce is lightly stir fried after a dish has been ordered.

This practice was evident in the dish of the stir-fried prawns with lemon grass and chilli. The crisp texture of the prawns and capsicum

carried the sharp taste of the chilli well. Our second main of gently fried bean curd with broccoli, carrots and cabbage was accompanied by a light sauce that added subtle flavour. The third main dish was chicken cooked with Vietnamese mint, peanuts and onion. The perfectly cooked chicken and the delicate aroma of mint carried this dish beyond the ordinary.

The Vietnam restaurant is highly recommended. Its knowledgeable staff are attentive and friendly. This, in conjunction with fresh food, interesting flavours, and extremely reasonable prices guarantee return custom.

—FIONA GREGORY

The perfectly cooked chicken and the delicate aroma of mint carried the dish beyond the ordinary.

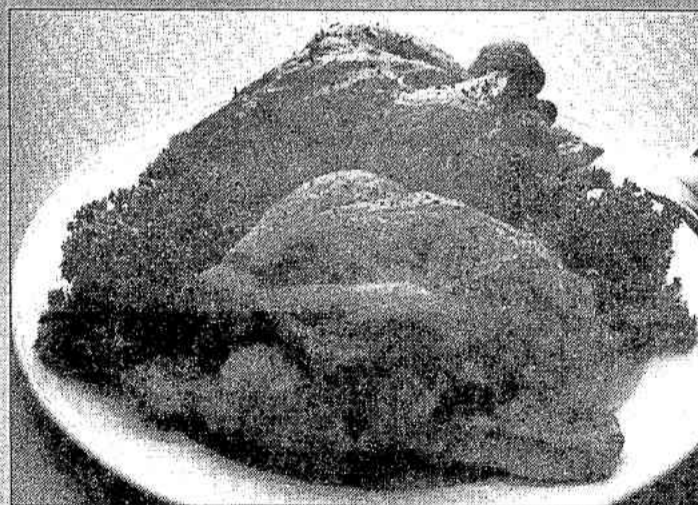
Vietnam Restaurant

address: 8-10 Hobart Place, Civic (recently moved from O'Connor shops)
phone: 248 7093
opening hours:
Lunch — Mon-Fri, 12-2pm
Dinner — Mon-Sunday, 5-10pm
average prices:
entree — \$2-4
main — average \$8
dessert — around \$3
Vietnam Restaurant is BYO, with 50c per person corkage.

Green gunge

Ingredients
1 large bunch fresh coriander
2.5 cm fresh ginger
Thinly peeled rind and juice of 1 lemon (no white pith)
2-4 cloves garlic (crushed)
1 red chilli (with or without seeds)
1 stalk lemon grass (chopped)
2-3 tablespoons Thai fish sauce
oil

1. Wash coriander & chop off roots & stalks. Chop roots & stalks roughly & add to food processor. **Do not add leaves until end of zooming.**
2. Chop ginger roughly and add to processor.
3. Add lemon rind, garlic, chilli & lemon grass to processor and zoom until chopped into very fine pieces. At last minute add coriander leaves, lemon juice and fish sauce to taste. No one taste should dominate—



(above) This chicken is stuffed

- usually you would use equal quantities of lemon juice and fish sauce depending on the taste of the lemons.
4. Combine with tablespoon of water to make more sloppy if desired (usually moisture from the coriander suffices).
5. Spoon into sterilised jar and tap down well. Cover with 2.5 cm of oil to exclude air. Seal and keep refrigerated.

Green gunge can be brushed over fish or chicken before grilling/BBQing. Or try it tossed with vegetables, or combined with sour cream or yoghurt and tossed with cooked potatoes. It could even be used as a soothing side dish to a hot curry.

eating in

buying better

Pasta sauce: the students' choice

"HAVEN'T THINGS CHANGED?"

This is how my grandfather is starting more and more of his conversations. But this time it wasn't a comment on youth hairstyles or the price of milk, but a comment on Australia's new eating habits. Good-bye to chops and three veg and buongiorno to a pasta he can't pronounce!

Australians have taken to this "Italian" (eye-tally-on) food like little kids to nose picking. Soon we'll think it's a national dish. I think Woolworths already does.

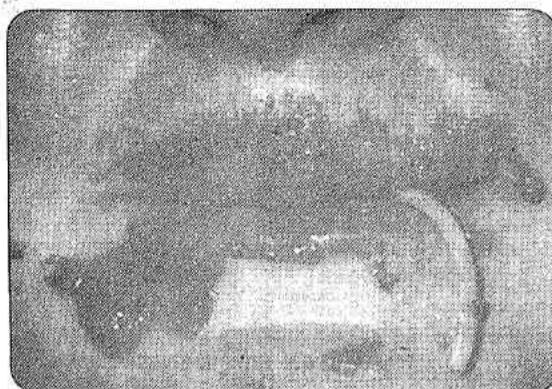
As students, you will soon realise, pasta is a loyal friend. It's cheap, quick and easy and above all else, can be cooked in the microwave. Not to forget that it is bound to set anxious mother's hearts at rest as it is renowned for its sustenance.

Many a night will come when your flatmates have devoured every last thing in the house and as you retreat tired and hungry to your room you spy something from the corner of your eye... could it be... yes it is... a couple of sticks of spaghetti. You grab these, look to the heavens and say "Grazie, Italy, grazie!"

Because pasta is so important to a student we have road tested five bolognese sauces and compared the qualities of each. So now your

A sturdy dollar can go that bit further by simply using this quick reference chart and critics' choice of just a few of the pasta sauces that will keep my grandfather shaking his head for a while yet!

—RACHEL WILSON AND FELICITY MULLENS



(above) One of our satisfied pasta sauce testers wears the Dolmio grin



handy household hint
A bicycle pump used backwards makes an excellent makeshift vacuum cleaner

Brand	Price	Flavour	Dolphin safe	The stain
Leggos	\$1.79	Tangy, nice blend of herbs	✓	A bit stubborn but nothing OMO won't fix
Dolmio	\$2.12	You're paying for the grin and not much else	✓	Easily removed from clothing — not so easily from face.
Raguletto	\$1.98	Oregano overdose, but there is a good clear map on the back	✓	No powder can match Raguletto for stain power.
Tiamo	\$1.49	Very fake — tastes like Country Link cuisine	Questionable. Poor dolphins	Defies Napi-San.
Paul Newman	\$1.92	Don't believe the hype	✓	Only a matter of time before Paul Newman designs his own washing powder to get this out.

money

legal ease

Bondage: entering into a lease

Entering a lease is not as easy as it may first appear and it is important that you are aware of both your rights and obligations that may arise from the simple act of signing a lease. This information will be a good start but just remember that there are a number of services that can help you out — free of charge!

What is a lease?
A lease is a CONTRACT so be careful! It is an agreement entered into by both you (the tenant) and your landlord and is a vast source of legal rights and obligations.

What does it look like?
Most leases in the ACT can be purchased for about \$2.00 from the newsagent. They are quite a long document with lots of different clauses which set out all that is expected of you and your landlord.

What do you have to do?
Read the lease. Although it is long, you should read what you are going to sign. Just note that the "lessor" is the landlord and the "lessee" is the tenant.

You will have to fill in the dates of when the lease is to start and end (usually 10-12 months) so try to work out these details before you arrive to sign the lease and take a diary!

You will also have to fill in the

amount of rent that you will be paying per fortnight, week or month, so take a calculator.

You will also nominate the amount of bond that you are going to pay (discussed later) so make sure you have enough cash or take your cheque book.

You may agree to pay the landlord some rent in advance but this is not on the standard lease and so you don't have to do it. At the same time, however, it might not hurt if it keeps your landlord happy.

The last thing to do is to sign the lease. Usually all the occupants of the property will sign the lease as it is generally safer to be on the lease than not.

Once you have signed and the landlord has signed, the lease will then need to be signed by a witness. The landlord will keep the original. Just make sure that you ask for a copy for all those who signed the lease.

What it means to sign a lease
Signing a lease means that the landlord has agreed to give you exclusive possession of his/her property provided you observe certain obligations, such as pay rent, keep the place in reasonable condition and leave when the lease comes to an end. The important thing to remember

is that a lease acts as a security device for both the landlord and the tenant, so make sure that you sign one.

Rights and Obligations
As tenants you are entitled to the 'quiet enjoyment' of the property. Once the lease is signed, your landlord must give you exclusive possession of the property. So if your landlord wants to come over, he/she must give you fair warning (at the very least). However, your landlord can show the property to prospective tenants while you are still there.

The landlord is generally responsible for most aspects of repair but tenants are under a general obligation to use the premises in a "tenant-like" manner. This just means that you are to take care of the place, keep it clean and in a habitable state, perhaps do small jobs and repairs, and avoid causing any damage. Just remember that you are not responsible for any reasonable wear and tear, eg. if the ageing hot water system breaks down or the threadbare carpet gets a hole in it. It might also be wise to draw up an itinerary of the defects with the property upon moving in and check whether you can put hooks in the walls!

You must pay your rent! This is usually done either fortnightly or

monthly, depending on your cash flow. If the money is deposited by you into your landlord's bank account, see if you can arrange an automatic transfer from your account.

You must pay all the bills, eg. gas, electricity, telephone and any excess water. Remember that all these services will charge you a connection fee and sometimes a deposit!

You may be required to have an inspection several times a year. Make sure that the place looks decent.

What is bond?
A bond is a security device for landlords to protect themselves against any problems that might arise with you if you don't keep your side of the bargain.

The bond is usually the equivalent of 4 weeks rent. You should be ready to pay the amount when you sign the lease so make sure that you have enough cash or your cheque book. The money is not kept by the landlord but is lodged with the ACT Rental Bond Board. Once it is lodged you will receive a receipt from the Rental Bond Board — **keep it.**

Your bond will be returned to you when the lease expires and there has been no breach of your obligations as a tenant. This usually just re-

quires a final inspection. Remember you may forfeit the bond if you don't pay your rent as well!

To retrieve your bond your landlord needs to notify the Rental Bond Board. A cheque will be issued. All the people named on the cheque must sign it before it can be cashed.

Final Tips
You must notify your landlord before your lease expires that you will be moving out, even if the lease only runs for 12 months. The length of notice depends on how often you paid the rent, eg. if you paid fortnightly you must give 2 weeks notice, if monthly, 4 weeks notice.

There are a number of places that you can get help and legal advice. The best place to start is the ACT Tenant's Advisory Service on 247 2011 and the ACT Welfare Rights and Legal Centre on 247 2177.

Happy house hunting and good luck!

—AMANDA SMITH

Although Woroni attempts to ensure the accuracy of this column, it should not be relied upon as legal advice.



foreign correspondent

michael mathieson
university of Texas

...and you can be my cowgirl

As the wheels of the 747-400 left the tarmac of Sydney airport last month, I had a few misgivings. And who wouldn't? There I was, after four content years of nuzzling and guzzling from that most agreeable teat of the Australian university system, the ANU, departing for 12 months of study overseas. It wasn't as though I was bound for the most exotic of destinations, either. Peru, Latvia, Mongolia? No, I was going to Austin, the capital of Texas. The land of rough 'n' tumble cowboys, big boots, Stetson hats, oil wells, rattlesnakes, grassy knolls, chicken-fried steak and JR. My home for the next year. With the airplane climbing over Botany Bay and the landing gear well and truly retracted, I meditated upon my decision.

My sombre thoughts were broken by the cheery voice of the captain. He welcomed us aboard the flight, went through the usual details about the trip, and then proceeded to rattle off the score for every single game of the National Football League underway on the other side of the Pacific. Then, twenty-two hours later, on an airplane from Denver to Austin, I sat next to a big burly man who chewed tobacco noisily, his huge stomach hanging over a belt-buckle the size of a tea saucer and a Stetson planted firmly on his head. Twenty-four hours later I staggered, exhausted, out of Austin airport, laden with too many bags, and hailed a taxi — which turned out to be driven by a transvestite. By the time I arrived at my residential college, the misgivings which had troubled me over Sydney remained unmitigated.

Next morning there was an orientation for the new exchange students. About 200 jet-lagged foreigners crowded into a lecture theatre for three soporific hours on how to get by in the States. As we left for lunch I decided it was time to meet some people, so I walked up to a girl nearby and said brightly: "Hi, I'm Michael. I'm from Australia." A look of confusion passed across her face, and I thought perhaps she was from somewhere "exotic" and didn't comprehend. Then, in an unmistakable accent, back came the reply: "Well, I'm Jane, and I'm from Sydney." A brief pause. "What are you studying here?" "Law." "Me too." Strangely enough, the first person I had met in Texas (apart from the transvestite taxi-driver) turned out to be another Australian law student.

Thus befriended, over the following week I did all the necessary settling-in errands and started poking around Austin. After a couple of forays I was surprised (and a little disturbed) to discover that both campus and city bore a startling resemblance to the ANU and Canberra. Like Canberra, Austin was built specifically to be a capital city and has since become a university town. It too is bisected by a lake around which public servants jog at lunch time and families rollerblade on weekends — Dad in the lead, Mum next, and children (from tallest to shortest) following. Conspicuous, however, was the absence of roundabouts and low-rise office buildings.

The parallels between the ANU and the University of Texas were not so readily apparent. For starters, UT is incredibly well funded, having been given land by the government earlier this century under which massive oil reserves were later discovered. The student union building, instead of resembling a concrete bunker, is a tasteful five-story edifice with loads of wood panelling, bronze inlay and subtle lighting inside. And no, there is no industrial disruption at UT; it's amazing what adequate university funding can do for labour relations.

But there were nonetheless some similarities. A massive residential college complex called "Jester", designed by an architect who otherwise specialises in prisons, looks remarkably similar to ANU's very own Burton & Garran Hall. The campus itself is located, just like ANU, right on the edge of the central business district. And (although this factor is probably common to all universities worldwide) the bureaucracy is utterly uncomprehending and incomprehensible. There is an infuriating touch-tone telephone system for course registration which, much like the traffic-route shenanigans of Facilities & Services, is enough to drive a basically sane student to the very brink of suicide.

In all, for having travelled a very great distance, it occurred to me that the teat from which I shall drink this year is not so different to the one I left in Australia, and certainly no less agreeable. No, I'm not about to mount cow-horns on the handlebars of my bicycle, nor am I rushing to embrace the musical accomplishments of Willie Nelson. But it will be no hardship at all to wrestle with a chicken-fried steak now and then and enjoy the slow, easy drawl of the friendly Texan people.

travel

adventure

Climb every mountain

My aversion to outdoor pursuits is well understood by those who know me, so it was almost as an afterthought that a very adventurous friend asked me to join her and five other girls on a camping trip to Tasmania. The plan was to walk the Overland Track which, she assured me, was quite within my inexperienced capabilities.

The Overland track is Tasmania's most popular extended bushwalk and takes about six days to complete. It stretches 80 km from Cradle Mountain to Lake St Clair, through some of Tasmania's most beautiful wilderness. I had never been to Tasmania before and this seemed like a good opportunity for me to do it on the cheap, and so — ignoring the incidental fact that such a trip would entail sleeping in a tent, digging my own toilet, carrying enough food for ten days and placing myself at the mercy of potentially harmful wildlife — I agreed to go.

As a novice, I had to borrow most of my camping apparatus, but even my best approximations of bushwalking apparel could not disguise my inherent alienation from this strange subculture, whose uniform seemed to consist of brightly coloured, stripey thermal underwear. However I soon became familiar with the basics: words like goretex, Trangia and thermarest began to roll off my tongue like tahini and honey on rye.

My comfort and safety on this trip depended largely on the skill and experience of my travel companions. I was therefore slightly perturbed when I discovered that I was the only one who thought to bring a lighter. I was also worried that our only map was somehow left behind on the kitchen table. But the fact that we had six toilet rolls between the seven of us somewhat restored my faith in our foresight.

Our adventure began with a bus trip from Launceston to Cradle Valley. Amongst our travel companions were Ti and Jan, a vigorous young couple from Sydney, a couple of Danish boys we discovered had no sunscreen; and gaiter man (so-called because every time I saw him he was wearing bright red nylon mud gaiters).

After registering our walk at the Ranger Station, Clint the Busdriver dropped us off at our starting point, Waldheim (which is the easier of the two possible ascents).

About four hours later we were at the 'base' of cradle mountain. I say 'base' with a certain sense of irony, considering the feats of impossible athleticism required just to get that far. Ahead lay the ascent proper: a sheer rocky climb of approximately two hours duration.



(above) Trekking by a lake even better looking than Burley-Griffin (right) Large unwieldy backpacks are a must in Tasmania

Entreaties were made for my participation in this excursion with assurances that the view "makes you feel on top of the world", but quite frankly I felt that way on the plane the day before. I had no need to punish myself further.

The walking on Day 2 was much more relaxed. We even had time to stop for a few hours at a secluded mountain lake for lunch and a swim.

While at the lake, a band of de-

I'd seen snakes and survived, been bitten by leeches and survived. I was having fun.

linquent native animals, familiar with the intricacies of backpack engineering, managed to unzip my pack, forage through the contents and steal away all my yummy treats. No-one else's pack seemed to be disturbed and my tenuous good mood was shattered.

The next day brought an even greater threat to my sanity: our campsite, after a rough five hour trek, seemed to be established within the midst of a thriving leech community. A new paranoia replaced my snake preoccupation and I got hardly any sleep.

On day four I optimistically set out for the peak of Mt Ossa with the others, but quickly decided that no view was worth such pain. While waiting for everyone's return, I got talking with a young Brazilian stud called Renato, who had practically run up Ossa and back in two hours. I also bumped into Marcus (our Swiss-German companion of the night before) who gave me a book to read — *A Guide to Happiness* by Epicurus. Was my mood that obvious?

That night Marcus and Renato

(who were both walking the track alone) loitered (shirtless) around our camp. We were running low on muesli and so offered a full body massage to Marcus in exchange for a bag. I don't think he took us seriously, but Renato sure looked keen.

By day five I started to relax. I was stronger, my pack was lighter, I'd seen snakes and survived, I'd been bitten by leeches and survived. I'd been alone with Renato and survived... I realised I was having fun. Day five was our first rainy day, so that night we sheltered in Windy Ridge Hut for dinner. It was here that we met Gordon, a virologist from Geelong responsible for the escape of the Rabbit Calcei Virus! I beat him at cards.

According to the log book, Windy Ridge has "the shittiest long drop in Tasmania". Our toilets had been getting progressively worse along the track, but this one made the proposal that walkers carry their own faecal waste seem attractive.

Our final night on the track was spent in Pine Valley Hut, where we shared a poignant last meal with our good friends Ti and Jan. Pine Valley was the most beautiful campsite that we stayed at with far and away the best toilet. We filled our warm, dry, tired but happy bodes with macadamia nuts dipped in Nutella and massaged each others aching muscles. The pleasure I got from such simple luxuries made me realise why people yearn to get back to nature.

On our return to civilisation, the lessons I'd learnt from the bush stayed with me for at least a few hours — long enough to consider investing in some stripey thermals, but who am I kidding? I'd get a lot more use out of a pair of slippers.

—SARAH CHRISTENSEN

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CULTURE slide your feet up the

Tell me a STORY

It's not easy if you're a film maker in Canberra, in spite of the current resurgence in Australian Film. Nevertheless, Canberra is slowly developing an expanding group of young, inventive, and exciting directors. Jane Stratton spoke to four Canberra film makers with a passion for storytelling.

Not many great cinematographers boast Canberra as their place of origin, of original inspiration, of humble artistic beginnings. But to the film makers doing their thing in Canberra, the Palme D'Or is not necessarily the aim of the game. From the most amateur to the most professional of those I spoke to, the overriding object was simply to tell a story.

I began my search for film makers in Canberra with very little idea of who or what to look for. Film making is so romanticised and mystified that I felt a little overawed by the prospect of speaking to real life film makers — but as my mother always says, "just remember they fart too!".

With that in mind, I began with film distributor Chris Kennedy, who pointed me in the direction of Bear Cage



Directors/producers Jo Scard (with cap) and Kath Cummins (right) at the Coles Supermarket with Sarah Snell

Productions, the most professional and corporate based film makers with whom I spoke. However, I also managed to track down a handful of smaller, independent film makers who were doing more 'on the edge' stuff with much less money.

Kath Cummins and Jo Scard, Damien Heffernan and Angela Buckingham are four young pliers of film who are loosely connected with Canberra, and who struck me with their energy, intelligence and passion for film and what it represents. However, a telling note on the state of the industry in Canberra is that Damien is on his way to Sydney, and Angela is already there.

Canberra, they voice unanimously, is not the place to make a film. Lack of infrastructure, equipment and support are big problems — although Damien wryly predicted that if Jackie Chan elects to come to join his parents in Canberra, the region's capacity to actually make films will blossom.

The ACT Cultural Development Funding Program provides up to \$15 000 for short film and video, although they stress that their funding is intended as a "start up", not to fully fund the project. And how do you actually get funded? You need an idea furnished with an attainable budget and supporting evidence that the project is in train — a script or a draft of one. They might require resumes of key figures like the producer and director. The ACT funding body will grant money to a project for production (three projects approved last round), or for script development (five scripts approved last round).

However, it does not provide training or practical assistance and advice. The ACT Arts Board claims that it aims to get film makers to a stage where they can "compete favourably for further assistance from commercial or

public sources". The Australian Film Commission is a prime target for film makers seeking funding, with a national budget for this financial year of \$900 000. Tim Read, Director of Film Development told me, however, that there are very few applications received from Canberra.

Damien Heffernan, 27, has been described by an anonymous colleague as the only serious film maker in Canberra, yet he too is about to pack up his bag and hit the road for Sydney. Damien seems very disillusioned and frustrated with the dearth of opportunity for his craft here. He told me of the difficulty of making his

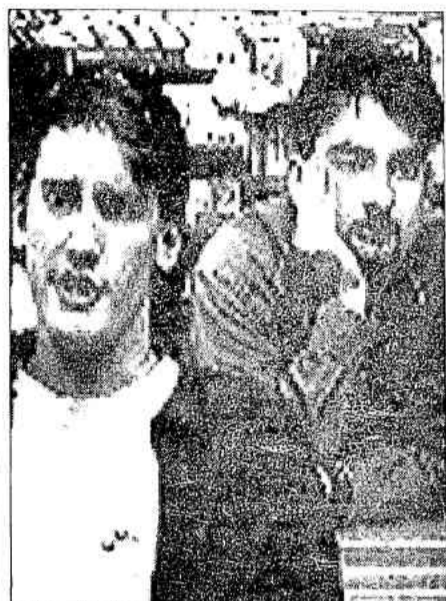
latest film, a feature (76 mins) called *Cthulhu*, a horror/psychological thriller based on a series of stories by 1930s writer H.G. Lovecraft. Damien made *Cthulhu* with no financial support on an ultra low budget. It became prohibitive to finish it on film, so shooting was

completed on video. The actors were paid a daily stipend to cover expenses and were all made associate producers with a share in any profits. A new obstacle facing young film makers is the recent phenomenon of "low budget" films — *Love and Other Catastrophes*, and *Clerks* for example — which have had immense budgets in comparison to the "new kids on the block". The standard for "low budget" is consequently more akin to what can be made for \$495 000–\$700 000 than the couple of thousand dollars thrown together by young film makers.

Angela Buckingham saw the film *Ghandi* at the age of eight and decided there and then that her life would either be in aid of humanity or in telling stories about people. The story telling option won out and she is now working in the film industry in Sydney as a clapper loader (the person who whacks down the clapper). She has made five short films and a documentary for the recent ABC "Race Around the World" competition. God knows what has ended up in the bin or

Film is expensive and is needed in plentiful supply. Big productions such as *Babe*, for example, used only one out of every seventy-two minutes shot in the final product.

(Top) Sarah Snell on location at the Coles Supermarket in Jamison. (Right) On location at the supermarket: (left to right) Kath Cummins, Nick Wall (with headphones), Chris Albert (on camera), Jo Scard, with Sarah Snell and Simon Clarke, foreground.



(Above) *Clerks*: a big budget low-budget film

burned — she admits to a penchant for destroying her work. But she must have some talent to be working with some of the best film makers in this country including Martin McGrath (*Proof*) and Peter Duncan (*Children of the Revolution*).

Kath Cummins has spent the last year working as a current affairs producer in TV in Canberra and consequently has invaluable connections to friends with equipment and creative energies to burn. Both Angela and Kath attest to the usefulness of connections in the right places. They share a common philosophy on making a film. Film is a medium by which to tell a story, and it is a real skill to be able to convey something engrossing in a minute, let alone maintain momentum for ten minutes or more.

Both Angela and Kath were eager to impart some gems of wisdom to anyone tossing around the idea of plunging into film. Here are their tips:

- Be resourceful!

It may seem obvious but if you could only film at night and at weekends, would you have thought to shoot somewhere with lighting to go, like Jamison Coles? Saves the immense expense of hiring lights.

- Always hold the shot a couple of seconds before and after the desired image to allow editing.

- Leave your inhibitions at the door — you will never know what lurks in the realm of the possible if you relegate it all to that of the impossible. Neither Jamison Coles nor the Phoenix Bar objected to film makers in their midst. At heart, people all have a secret desire to be on celluloid, or at least to see cameras in action.

- Look around you. Learn to see consciously all the time. Angela and I discussed the power of film as a medium, the way in which film can wrench your emotions.

Angela had an interesting response in that people take visual images for granted, and film affects them therefore on a

Film is a medium by which to tell a story, and it is a real skill to be able to convey something engrossing in a minute, let alone maintain momentum for ten minutes or more.



Shooting in Ainslie: (from left to right) director/producers Jo Scard and Kath Cummins, with Chris Albert on camera.

subconscious non-rational level, emotively. Perhaps a film maker needs to be aware of how to spin a story by seeing what goes on around them in a different light.

- Break the rules. Don't be afraid to explore the medium and don't let the technology fetter you. Both Angela and Kath were particularly strong on this point. Film, according to Angela, is about creating an aesthetic product via a technological process. A film maker cannot let themselves be overruled or dominated by the technology. Kath put it well — "technology should be in the

service of the idea not the other way around."

- Have fun.

Finally, regardless of the reception to your work, it is the experience of making a film, of imparting a story that gives the process meaning. Start shooting!

For those interested to see some short films under the stars, the Canberra Festival's Movies by Moonlight should fit the bill. March 11-14, 8pm, \$5; Senate Gardens of Old Parliament House.



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★★★★★

THE FIRST BAND ON THE MOON

The Cardigans

Stockholm Records



Okay, so you've heard the single "Lovefool" on Triple J and adored it. You might even have read a little article in *Rolling Stone* about those "kooky" Swedes — an article which used the word "kitsch" about fifty times. Well ignore all that — The Cardigans' new (second) album is infinitely better than these clues would lead you to believe. Buy it now.

Fronted by Nina Persson, who has possibly the

sweetest, sexiest voice in pop, and led by the musical genius of Peter Svensson, (can you tell they're from Sweden!?!), the Cardigans are the best band Scandinavia has ever exported (and that's including ABBA and Roxette). Their music consists of clever, gorgeous candypop songs, with strings, horns, flutes and lovely harmonies. The band moves effortlessly from la-la sing-a-long choruses to moody, spacey sad songs, to saucy, swinging pop all within the space of the first few tracks. Lyrically, most of the songs are about lurv, but at no point does it become overblown or cheesy. The strength of The Cardigans is that they can play music that no other band would be able to pull off without seeming cliched or shallow, while always maintaining a sense of style and class. Which was exactly why everyone loved John, Paul, George and Ringo in the early days, if my memory serves me correctly.

And just when you think it couldn't get any better, turn the tape over — Side 2, that "Love me, Love me" song followed by a slinky, jazzy cover of Black Sabbath's "Iron Man". See what I mean about class? But it is the last two songs of the album which stand out: "Great Divide" beginning with Ms. Persson singing "There's a monster growing in our heads" over the most beautiful strings you've ever heard, and then "Choke", finishing the album with a huge orchestral flourish — a chorus which makes your heart beat faster.

Okay, so maybe all this is a bit over the top, after all, it is only pop music. Maybe I got a bit carried away there... naah. This is a classic — if you have a pop bone or an ounce of melody in your body, you'll love Sweden's finest.

—PAUL H

★★★★★

EMANCIPATION

The Artist Formerly Known as Prince

EMI



Emancipation, the new 3 disc 36 song set from The Artist Formerly Known As Prince, is a musical tour of various styles from the laid back funk of tracks like "Jam Of The Year" and "Sex In The Summer", to swing ("Coutin' Time"), and harder funk and rap in tunes like "Emale" and "Joint To Joint". Long anticipated by

fans, this album (The Artist's 21st) marks the end of his feud with Warner Bros. Records, and the disappearance of the word "slave" on his cheek. This marks the beginning of a new era in TAFKAP's career, signed now to EMI International, where he is free to experiment, and release as much material as he wishes. The album itself, while not as groundbreaking as some of his previous work, is a pleasure to listen to. It is without a doubt the best material he has released since the 1991 Diamonds and Pearls album. It is also the most commercial — look out for a big return to the charts in 1997.

—JASON FERNANDEZ

★★★★★

NOT SO TOUGH NOW

Frenzal Rhomb

shagpile



I think everyone, regardless of musical taste or preference, could benefit from a burst of Aussie punk, a la Frenzal Rhomb, occasionally. Their new album *Not So Tough Now* will keep you grinning and jumping around your lounge room. From the very minute you see the cover (a photo of a McDonald's destroyed by a hurricane) through repeated listenings.

53 tracks in 32 minutes and 3 seconds... Frenzal Rhomb keep it short, sharp and sweet. You only really get about twenty songs — the rest is just an extended "secret track" gag. Herein lies Frenzal Rhomb's appeal for me — sheer speed, paired with fantastic lyrics and punk harmonies. Simply put, it is a joy to hear these guys rip through their songs. The songs cover such traditionally punky topics as a healthy distrust of institutions, be it the church and the popularity of Green Day ("Jesus"), or society as a whole.

It is their treatment of personal, everyday things, however, that sets this band apart — from the pleasure of not wearing pants, ("Pants"), to messages to people who piss you off ("Parasite" and "Wish You Were There"). At times, the message doesn't quite mesh with the tune, but when they play "You Are A Knob", you just have to love them, and be thankful that we have bands like this in our own backyard.

You may not still be listening to this record when you're forty, but who cares? Thank god for bands who aren't afraid of a little self-deprecating humour and irony, and who play with as much energy as Frenzal Rhomb.

—PAUL H

books

★★★★★

PALIMPSEST

Gore Vidal

Abacus

rrp \$19.95



First comes biography, death rapidly follows. In a brilliantly doomed attempt to negate this truth, the author (of *1876* and *Burr* notably) and essayist Gore Vidal has written his own memoirs, leaving nothing racy out and leaving any prospective biographers to overcome charges of sour ingratitude. It has worked so far — Vidal recently graced the Sydney Writers Festival with his dominating presence, downing eager young ABC and newspaper interviewers with deftly tossed aphorisms.

The autobiography moves between past and present easily, at times switching from more conventional reminiscences about meetings and adventures with some of the most important figures of our century, to acidic commentary on his own memories. Early fame has proved a mixed blessing for some: for Gore Vidal it allowed him to mix with the blessed. An almost unbelievable cast of personalities litter his work: Andre Gide, Tennessee Williams, Charlton Heston, Eleanor Roosevelt, Jack Kerouac. He knows the first principle of gossip well: it is not what you know, it's who you know it about. While the uncharitable observer might accuse Vidal of Olympic level namedropping, it is undeniable that he was the intimate of many crucial figures.

He is, for example, one of the few who could say with a smirk (rather than with any false seriousness): "It is always a delicate matter when a friend or acquaintance becomes president". The friend in this case was Kennedy (humbly, Vidal denies rumours of an involvement with Jackie), and he offers an interestingly unromantic view of him. Almost implying that JFK's untimely demise may have had its advantages for the human race, he comments: "He wanted to win — not play at — the cold war."

Probably the only American writer

brave enough to describe himself as an intellectual, Vidal has written a book that is both poised and wonderfully bitchy. He is inherently incapable of being boring. Yet, as someone once said about Virginia Woolf, the price she paid for never being boring was a verbal cruelty she could never escape. The same is true of Vidal, but when added to a levelly ironic outlook, the cruelty does not descend to spite. "Serious" writers are dismissed with a line, as is Graham Greene, who arrived, "gray-green as his name". Social bitchiness is gleefully reported, like that of Tennessee Williams refusing to meet E.M. Forster, saying "I do not choose to lunch with old gentlemen with urine-stained flies".

Unlike many memoirs, *Palimpsest* is not elusive about its main subject when it would suit, but does not pretend objectivity either. An engaging book, it can and should be read as it was intended, as an entertaining primer for any serious gossip about the famous of the twentieth century.

—GARTH CRAWFORD

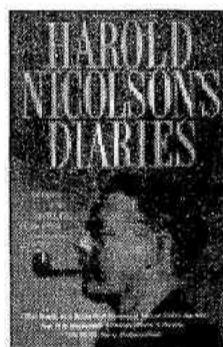
★★★★

HAROLD NICHOLSON'S DIARIES

Stanley Olson

Flamingo

rrp \$19.95



Harold Nicholson's life and writings remind us of how much has been lost in the professionalisation of politics in Western democracies. The breadth of his career, from Foreign Office representative at the Versailles Peace Conference, to critic and biographer, to Minister for Information in Churchill's war-time government, would be virtually impossible in today's political structure. Like aristocratic politicians of the era of Disraeli or Pitt, he took part in national life out of a sense of *noblesse oblige*, and was never shy of shifting party allegiances as his own convictions, or interests, changed.

Hence the first parts of Nicholson's diaries trace his initial attraction to, and gradual disenchantment from, Tom Mosley's fascist "New Party". From the numerous entries describing lunches and parties with the likes of H.G. Wells, T.S. Eliot, Maynard Keynes and Bernard Shaw, it is apparent how deeply pseudo-fascist ideology permeated the British upper-classes. Even Edward VIII, a personal acquaintance of Nicholson, shared elements of the ideology. The diaries also give fascinating insight into Edward's involvement with that gauche American heiress, Wallis Simpson, who was blamed for his

probably fortuitous abdication in 1936.

However, it was English democracy itself, rather than its creations, that truly fascinated Nicholson. In an entry during the "darkest hours" of 1940, he marvelled at the resilience of the institution. Sitting in the House of Commons, he comments at how great a tribute it is to Britain that even at a moment when the nation hung in the balance, the Deputy Prime Minister could still be permitted to get up and for two hours and give a painfully boring speech.

Nicolson's own life was hardly dull. Married to the poet Vita Sackville-West, he apparently tolerated her open affair with Virginia Woolf. If it ever caused tensions between them, they do not appear in the *Diaries*. For his part, he was rumoured to regard their relationship as open. In his own eccentric way though, he continued to almost revere Vita, telling her in one quoted letter that she was the person he admired most "after Winston Churchill".

The *Diaries* are rarely searching tracts of self-examination. Nicolson's strength, which he recognised, was the reporting of events of which his intelligence and position had placed him at the centre of. He comments to Vita in a letter that "97% of humanity is non-observant". That may be ungenerous (he was a refreshing snob, despite later serving as a Labor candidate), but it is fortunate that the record of the life of this very observant man has survived.

—GARTH CRAWFORD



★★★★

SCREAM

Directed by Wes Craven

Electric Shadows

Rated MA

The white luminescence and zoomed in proximity of Van Gough's anguish beckons and bludgeons horror back onto the screen in Wes Craven's *Scream*. Not only is the film fresh with humour and the wit of experience Craven brings from *Nightmare on Elm Street* and *The Rainbow and the Serpent*, but it throws punches when the audience pauses for a laugh and mocks the American culture that continues to turn on itself. TV-video culture and all-Americanism are made vulnerable, questionable, and punishable by stabbing in the glory of grandiose horror cliché. *Scream* is no cliché by any length of a blade, but cleverly works within this frame to create original terror, humour, and rekindle hope for the genre. *Scream's* cast of victims is fantastic, with Drew Barrymore, Courtney Cox (*Friends*), and Neve Campbell (*Party of Five*) firing the story with verve. David Arquette plays the town's deputy sheriff with a brilliant incompetence, and there's a smallish cameo by Henry Winkler (*Happy Days*) as an incredibly humorous principal.



(above) Pillows, books and pretty girls in Peter Greenaway's latest film

Scream is so full of satirical brilliance and clever horror that hopefully it will bring new look horror flickdom into centre stage.

—ROBERT UMPHELBY

★★★★

THE PILLOW BOOK

Directed by Peter Greenaway

Electric Shadows

Rated MA

No work is more suited for transformation into a Peter Greenaway film than Sei Shonagon's *The Pillow Book*. Written in the tenth century by a leading courtesan in the Imperial Court of Japan, it is a varied collection of observations, diary entries, and lists of things that delight or disgust Shonagon. Greenaway takes advantage of this, to create a film without identifiable links between sections, the artistry being in the apparent randomness itself.

For someone with a long-standing feud with sequential narrative progression, Greenaway takes this material and fashions a startlingly simple plot around it. In fact, the plot soon assumes the same air of grinding inevitability as a funeral. No disrespect to any concerned, but its not long before one just wishes the whole thing was over. Since his success in such films as *The Cook, The Thief, His Wife and Her Lover*, it could be suspected that no one has had the courage to tell this cinematographer about the cutting room floor. Knowing what to leave there is part of making an outstanding film. In *The Pillow Book* one aches for a pair of scissors to go up to the projector room and do it oneself.

The reason so much has been retained is obvious: the cinematography of this film is of a luxurious quality. Unlike the constant panning, wide-screened fatuity of *Prospero's Books*, each shot has been considered separately and at length, as almost an individual piece of art. The result is a rich, calmly and deliberately executed, visual mosaic. This, rather than Greenaway's story, is his tribute to Shonagon's *Pillow Book*. But Greenaway spoils any effect, and goes too far in inserting floating screens that play parallel to the main scene, presumably to under-

line or contrast certain developments. Although distracting, they are more disappointing for not actually advancing the relationship of the audience to the main character, Nagiko. No conclusions are drawn that a viewer of the film would not already have been aware of. The general effect is patronising, and looks more like the result of an unsupervised Bill Gates playing in the production process than cinema.

Peter Greenaway being self indulgent is still, however, more worth seeing than many other film-makers not, and if he is judged by higher visual standards than them, it is because he himself has played a part in setting those standards.

—GARTH CRAWFORD

★★★★

THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY

Directed by Jane Campion

Electric Shadows

Rated PG

Dark corridors and evil twisted meanings tempted me into going to see Jane Campion's *The Portrait of a Lady*. I was so excited at the prospect of watching more strong independent women triumph over manipulative perverts that I even overlooked the fact that Nicole Kidman was starring in this film. The Nicole Kidman of *Days of Thunder*, *Far and Away*, and I-married-Tom-Cruise-and-look-where-I-am-now fame. What I'm trying to say is that, slim, pale, wraith-like, and married to Tom as she may be, there is no way that Kidman could carry this film. This is a film about inner entrapment, about the cages that society creates, and those that we choose to create for ourselves, "of what it means to be a consumer of persons, and of what it means to be a person consumed". Kidman simply does not have the charisma to bring out this inner turmoil. Every time I was on the point of feeling the ache and the pain and the beauty of the story, Nic would burst into wooden tears, and I'd get cynical and impatient.

The film is still intelligent and strong, not least because of the compelling John Malkovich, the absolute embodiment of all that is creepy, shallow, and sickly manipulative. Campion's cinematography

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is still gorgeous, with atmosphere and period immaculately caught. But sadly, when not under the spell, the glorious melodrama that is so much of the film begins to stink of effort and contrivance.

This is still a film worth seeing, but it has little of the essential beauty and brilliance of *The Piano*. A wonderfully promising film, *The Portrait of a Lady* is ultimately shallow at heart.

—PENELOPE SACHER



John Makovich sleazes his way through *The Portrait of a Lady*

★★★★★

CRASH

Directed by David Cronenberg

Manuka Greater Union

Rated R

Crash is not an easy film to watch, but David Cronenberg has always been like that. Holly Hunter and James Spader are the drawcards on the bill, but Deborah Unger, Rosanna Arquette and Elias Koteas are just as important in this story of isolation and alienation. One watches the characters from a distance, without any understanding of what it is that has led them to fantasise so violently about colliding at high speed. Instead of making a film in which the special effects covered the holes in the plot, Cronenberg lets the mood of the piece wash across scenes and hangs the film from that. The film manages to contain great extremes, from the full tilt (intelligently shot) sex and car crashes, to an overall feeling of a slow pace in the film as a whole. *Crash* opens with a sex scene, and closes with one, but where sex was an end in itself at the start, by the end it is hard to say whether sex resembles car crashes, or if it's the other way around. In making *Crash*, Cronenberg has crafted a vision of a world in which life is not valued except as the potential vehicle for excruciating pleasure. More generally, the film maker is commenting on a world in which people move through a constructed environment without direction or purpose, and techno-nihilism is the standard acceptance of urban existence. The characters in the film want more — they want to crash through life to drag out what bliss there is, as they head towards a final accident. The death wish driven heroes (?) affirm the live-fast-die-young theory, advocating self-destruction as the alternative to boredom. It is quite likely that you won't come out of this film and say "Gee, what fun!". But it is an

amazing film and it challenges the viewer to do more than simply absorb a predigested Hollywood plot. Seeing a film like this is the equivalent of getting a head cleaner for your video. Seeing a film like this is part of a healthy diet.

—ADRIAN REGAN

theatre

THE TEMPEST

Directed by Nicholas Bolonkin

Aspen Island Tues-Sat 8pm

Until March 31

Shakespeare in the park is always popular, and it is easy to see why the producers of the National Summer Shakespeare chose *The Tempest* as the play for their 1997 season on Aspen Island. As director/producer Nicholas Bolonkin writes, "*The Tempest* displays the classical unities of time, place and action". Despite the novelty of seeing a play which is set on an island actually performed on one, it seems that in this production Bolonkin has relied too heavily on the play's "classical unities" and failed to take advantage of the density and complexity of its script.

Bolonkin states: "The beauty and harmony of *The Tempest* is often eclipsed by academic and ethical questions." Yet it is more often those ethical and moral questions which give the play its power for contemporary audiences. Despite its overwhelming competence, this production failed to display any real imagination in its execution, and as a result the audience was left with a rather washed out version of the play.

This ambivalence extended throughout the production. Costumes were in the "stock Elizabethan" vein, although the music, where it appeared, was both thoughtful and entertaining. In its static staging the production failed to take advantage of the natural characteristics of the island. The actors gave strong and consistent performances, but also appeared not to have been particularly stretched by their director. Phil Roberts' Prospero failed to explore the complexities of this fascinating character, a fault echoed by Tim Woods' Caliban (despite some wonderful physicality) and Bronwen Gault's Miranda. The two actors who did manage to transcend the play's unfortunate imaginative malaise were Peter Robinson, as Trinculo, and Kate Early, as a tremendously talented and impressive Ariel.

The overall impression was of a performance a little too consciously targeted at a mid-range audience, which left one with a feeling very similar to that of the BBC Shakespeare — competently performed, but unimaginatively portrayed, though in this production without the delight of seeing Patrick Stewart taking a lead role.

—MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN

smash hits

movie

Top Gun

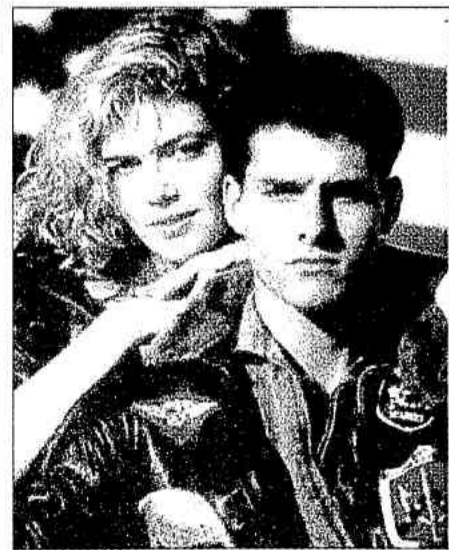
Top Gun contained almost every cliché imaginable, but somehow still stirred your blood.

Maverick (Tom Cruise), dare-devil pilot and his best pal and co-pilot Goose (Anthony Edwards) go to Top Gun — training school for fighter pilots. Rival pilot, iron jaw Val Kilmer as IceMan takes him on and love interest Charlotte (Kelly McGillis) — the girl with the eighties haircut to die for and the pastel pink fisherman's knit sweater — gets him off. Along the way, dare-devil Tom plays an epic game of volleyball with Val, seduces the cautious yet sexy civilian Kelly who doesn't make a habit of sleeping with pilots, manages to lose both his best mate and his confidence out of the ejector seat of a fighter jet, loses the girl, fights the commies, wins honour and glory for his Dad, himself and America, earns the respect of Val, gets a job with Top Gun and finally wins the girl back. Phew. Takes your breath away, doesn't it?

The movie was about sweat, sand, big engines, those fly boy sunglasses, and dammit, being proud to be American. It was also about noisy flying and gritty tense mid air conversations. The sound-track rocked: 'Out into the danger zone'; the sweat and saliva drenched 'Take my breath away' and the smooth retro sound of the Righteous Brothers 'You've lost that loving feeling', swoon, swoon.

It is amazing how many actors in this film went on to better things. Meg Ryan in an early role as Goose's kooky and later, heartbroken wife became America's Sweetheart, Tom Skerrit (Viper, head of Top Gun) turned up as the Sheriff in *Picket Fences*, Anthony Edwards recovered to star in *ER*. Val Kilmer displayed his jaw to perfection in *Batman*, Kelly McGillis seems to have disappeared from view since *Witness*. And Tom? Well, he married Nicole.

—MICHAELA PETERS



(above) Blondes, planes and the American dream take off in *Top Gun*

tv show



(above) Lynda Day, editor

Press Gang

It's time to make a confession — I was not significantly influenced by *Degrassi*. I like to think I'm not alone in this. As a teenager, I didn't want to watch something that painted my own adolescent confusion (albeit with more vivid colours), I wanted a different picture altogether. I found this in *Press Gang* — a show about a bunch of teenagers set the task of producing a newspaper for public consumption. Yet *Press Gang* was never about the pursuit of a front page story, it was about the interaction between its ultra witty and hyper intelligent characters. From Sarah Jackson, the sartorially challenged star reporter, to the charisma charged finance whiz, Colin Matthews (the only man who could successfully market half ping-pong balls as 'pings'), these were people you wanted to become, not people you already were. Perhaps some people related to Kenny Phillips, the marshmallow-like assistant editor, but I could never forgive his brief but nevertheless unfortunate stint as the "yummiest man in rock" which saw him incessantly warble a self-penned song with rather limited lyrics ("I want to go/I want to be there/When Cagney says 'keen'/And an arm goes out to anyone who goes down", [repeat ad nauseam]).

I always wanted to be Lynda Day, the editor of the *Junior Gazette* and a woman who presided over the newsroom with the presence of a dominatrix at the Hellfire Club. She was tough, powerful, amoral, and wielded a one-liner with the same devastating accuracy as an executioner's axe (a weapon which, for want of a better target, usually fell on the hapless graphics department). However, more than wanting to be possessed of Lynda's attributes, I wanted to be possessed of Lynda's boyfriend. Spike Thompson (sigh!) — a genuine American played by a genuine Brit whose accent, unfortunately, kept slipping — was Lynda's perfect partner. The electricity between the two was almost tangible and their verbal sparring matches had all the intensity of a title fight. I watched *Press Gang* in order to see their relationship evolve, but I became a devotee because this show tackled issues much in the same way as *Degrassi* — honestly, with never a hint of sugar coating — but those doing the tackling were prettier and smarter than Joey, Wheels and Snake.

—NICOLA PARSONS

album

Smash Hits '87

I still remember the day I bought *Smash Hits '87*. I went into town with a friend of mine, and between us we purchased not only the hallowed cassette, but four pairs of fluorescent socks, two tubes of glitter gel, three scrunchies, and a bright pink bubble skirt. We were going to be the coolest kids in year six.

Puffy fashion accessories may have long since lost their glamour, but *Smash Hits '87* is still as hard-bopping as it was ten years ago. From the moment Mel and Kim's computer generated voices start singing "Tay, tay, tay, t-t-t-t-tay, tay", it's nothing but synthesised drum beats, generic guitar solos and climactic key changes all the way.

The thing that's special about this tape, however, is the diversity of tracks it includes. One minute I'm crawling across the floor in ripped jeans and lacy lingerie to Samantha Fox's tuneless but sexy track, "Nothing's Gonna Stop Me Now", the next, I'm playing air-guitar to Europe's adrenalin-pumping "Final Countdown", and then I find myself brushing away tears, as memories of Mel's (or was it Kim's?) untimely death come flooding back.

There's also no shortage of absolutely must-have classic hits. "Funky Town", "Locomotion", "Slice of Heaven" (damn you, New Zealand Tourist Board, for ruining a perfectly good song) and "Walk Like an Egyptian" all make a very welcome appearance. As does Angry Anderson's stirring hit "Suddenly", which can't help but invoke poignant memories of TV Week's "Wedding of the Year" between an 18-year-old (18? they seemed so old...) Scott and Charlene.

Sigh. I'm in go-go heaven.

—CORIN THROSBY



(above) The *Smash Hits '87* cover was designed in the days

when badge collections were actually cool (inset) Scott and Charlene in *TV Week's* "Wedding of the Year"

book

Are you there God? It's me, Margaret

Judy Blume is the Queen of the teenage problem novel. She covered just about every topic in the sex education manual and when she'd finished with that she threw in a bit of religion.

The spiritual bit of *Are you there God?* explores what happens when your irresponsible parents don't bequeath you a religion. Poor old Margaret has to run about and try to find her own. Meanwhile she pesters God with the desire to grow breasts and menstruate and that pretty much sums up the plot.

This book first achieved fame as the one about getting your period. When I was in year seven it was set as an English text, but everyone in the class was too embarrassed to discuss it. However, Margaret and her friends — 'the Pre-Teen Sensations' — eagerly explore the mysteries of the Gro Bra and Teenage Softies. (Poor Margaret has to wear a belt with her Teenage Softies — this was a long time before wings and light blue dye). It's somewhat puzzling that the girls are so keen to get menstruating — but Propaganda Queen Judy must have been keen to give the scene some good press.

The immortal lines 'we must, we must, we must increase our bust' are the most memorable thing about this book, and probably accounted for an increase in breast implants during the eighties. We can blame Judy for just about everything if we try hard enough.

One last thought — why did they make Margaret and her friends so incredibly beige on the front cover?

—MICHAELA PETERS



(left) The very beige cover of a teenage classic

LICK IT UP

and 1



Our Richard Marx in

V is for Victory (part one)

Richard caressed the slightly sticky body of his favourite guitar, leaving sweaty finger marks that would prove convenient for police if rock n' roll was ever outlawed. The fire engine red duco that screamed sensuality reflected his eternally child-with-stubble-like features, upon which now rested a vacant, mistily smiling expression — the expression that usually resulted when Richard wore his mink lined y-fronts under his white leather trousers.

It was a balmy, hazy, crazy, exotically fragranced and intoxicating evening in Japan, in a city that Richard couldn't pronounce for the life of him, even after intensive coaching from his manager.

"Why don't they give their cities normal names, like Richard or Marx?" our hero mused as he was poked, prodded, brushed and painted by stylists in a way he was especially fond of.

"Turn sideways for a sec, Mr Marx", one of the team requested. Richard obliged but then found he couldn't see himself in the mirror, and when a hairdresser repeatedly swivelled Marxie's head away from his reflection, a rock star's tantrum ensued. As he beat his fists and the toes of his snake-skin boots against the floor, rolled around, gnashed his new teeth and didn't even think of pulling his hair out, there came a knock at the door.

"Mr Marx!" a voice respectfully screamed, "Wa-Wa-Nee are on their encore, be on stage in five minutes please!"

"Hmmp. Nobody tells me what to do. I was in *Rolling Stone* once", Richard mumbled. He was about to tell this cheeky chap as much when he caught his own eye in the reflection of a steel-capped boot worn by one of his assistants. The protruding pinkness of his lower lip and boyish frown would be perfect for his next single cover. He jumped up from the floor and studied his countenance in a large, light-globe surrounded mirror, then turned around to see it from the back and realised the mirror was then behind him. He was about to fling himself onto the floor again in tears when the forgotten voice came again.

"Mr Marx! can you hear me?"

The real source of Richard's irritation then surfaced.

"Why do I go on before Pseudo Echo? Nobody even waves their lighters in the air for them! And they don't even know how to rock! And they're ugly." Richard yelled in a voice a pitch higher than normal due to his near-hysteria.

"You won't get paid if you don't perform now!"

A small voice then tweeted from the mysteriously fluffy depths of Marx's mind.

"It's the music that matters, Richard."

Richard couldn't tell whether that meant he should forget the money and go on last no matter what, or forget his pride and go on now. A frown of perplexity wrinkled his brow, but was smoothed away by the arrival of his manager.

"Richard, you are being very naughty. I told you that being second on the bill means you are the best. You are like the meat in the sandwich. Go on now."

Richard loved ham sandwiches with hundreds-and-thousands so this image appealed to him. He cheerfully grabbed his flyin' V, tugged at the hole in his jeans just under his crotch to make it tantalisingly larger, and ran to the side of the stage.

The aforementioned pop group were still playing. Fans were screaming. Underwear was flying through the air. Teddy bears were trampled under the singers feet. A keyboard solo with a thumping beat appealed even to Richard's rock n' roll sensibilities. He crossed his arms, hugging his guitar to his partly exposed chest and began to tap his boot and look at his Pierre Cardin watch in a pointed manner. Somehow the band did not notice his troubles. He cleared his throat. They simply ignored him! Marxie could take it no longer, and marched onto the stage intending to give the band a good telling off.

"Hey everybody! It's our good friend Richard Marx!" announced the singer. The crowd cheered.

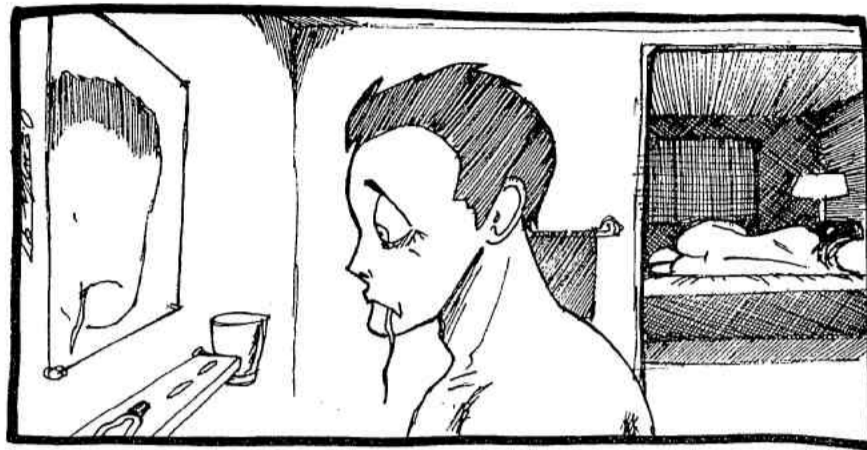
"Richard, I would consider it as a great honour if you would join us in playing 'I Could Make You Love Me'. What do you say?"

"OK, I guess." Richard conceded, and the crowd responded in a manner similar to one they had been responding in for most of the evening.

Richard didn't know the song, but he contented himself with interrupting about seven times to perform guitar solos, accompanied by suggestive thrusting. The audience were consistently undiscerning in their response. The song ended and Richard quickly grabbed the microphone.

"A big hand for Wa-Wa-Wa!" he demanded. "Um... it's Wa-Wa-Nee" the singer informed Richard. "Yeah, whatever" he replied and sent them on their way with 'friendly' pats on the back that appeared to the perceptive as violent shoves.

— SARAH HUTCHINGS



FUCK - THAT HAS GOT TO BE A TEABAG



This month from Metal Mick:

Those of us who know the sheer thrill of standing in a room pretending to play a guitar, may also be keen to experiment with holding a beer in front of your crotch, then symbolising your three hobbies, drinkin', sexin', and posin'.

BONG ON — from Metal Mick.



YES! I truly believe with all my heart that Jesus Christ is my Lord and saviour. In fact I'll believe anything with all my heart if it will ensure my safety in case hell actually exists. That's the sort of strong minded person I am.

I understand that God is watching me, so I'd better sign this form with all my heart.

Signed.....

Phew!

def fx

nitocris + grinspoon

thursday march 6

uni of canberra union refect

tickets through ucu access, impact records and the music shop, belconnen

UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA
Union
bar
MUSIC SHOP



Gospel of Lotso' Fun

Following the rise of black metal are brutal underground band, Gospel of Nocturnal Azhubcap Demoniccus. These four guys are from Dubbo N.S.W. and I spoke with Gary Smith alias 'Eternads'.

What is the background of 'Gospel'?

Me and Davo Popodopoulos (alias Behemoth Popodopoulos) met down the pub once and decided to become a Megadeth cover band called 'Aftertrash'. We released our first demo in 1983 called 'Bangers and Thrash' and it sold pretty well so we recruited Wazza and Doug and became 'Devastator'. We released 'Extrême Nuclear Devastation' when thrash started to die, and death became popular but we didn't give a fuck cause we refused to follow trends but then we got sick of thrash and became a death band called 'Necrophlaps'. Soon we decided to progress musically and became a doom band called 'Sorrow' which was quite good timing as doom had been popular for a few months now. Anyway, we discovered fourteen other bands with 'Sorrow' in their names, so we changed to 'Sulkyness'. Anyway, we're now 'Gospel etc...' and that's what we'll be 'til the end.

Are you a stupid fuckface?

We are promoting satanic hate as a means of destroying Christ and his one minded followers. Fuck God and his son. Worship Sa-

tan and be your own god at the same time.

What are your lyrics about?

Satan and his huge horns. He also has a tail which he uses to keep flies and christians away from his arse. It can grow up to six feet long in the summer. Satan can run at speeds up to 2 miles an hour. He can be found basking on the South East shores of Burrawarra-coorijirra beach. Satan is shy and likes to beat his buttocks with the branches of the Mortificatus Mitebechristianbutthey-stillknowhowtorockus, a tree commonly found in the ground.

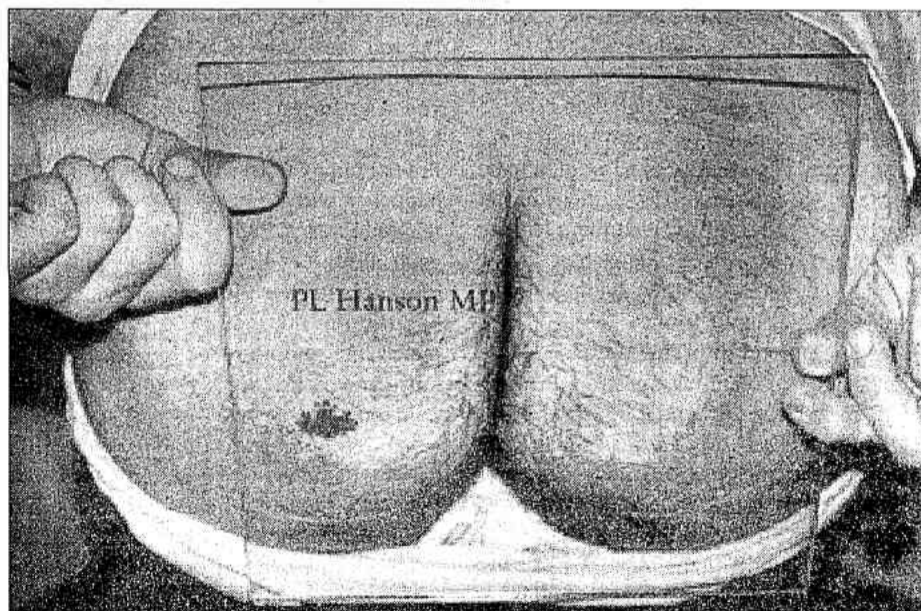
Are you a bit of a poofter? Or a real man? Or an insecure poser?

I only listen to the most evillest music and I think anyone who doesn't listen to at least one purely evil band is a fuckhead. I also drink lots And I wear makeup but it isn't makeup, it's war paint for when there's a war between us Aussies and those fuckin' nips.

What do the Mitsubishi Dealin' Deals clearance sales mean to you?

It's basically a sale to end all sales where all stock (which must go) is slashed up to half price. Limited time...limited stock. So hurry. I sure love the way you puff on your pipe. You must be a great kisser.

—BEN HUTCHINGS
This originally appeared in the first edition of "Benzine", a Canberra zine



The White Butt and the Yeti are proud to bring to you this photo. In case you are not familiar with the object defacing the buttock, it is Pauline Hanson's etched glass name plate. It was liberated by us from the wall next to her office in Parliament House. We recommend avoiding the security personnel, as they were not very understanding. As far as we are concerned, Pauline

Hanson can kiss our butts. Recognising that this photo breaks new ground in the attempt to make rank and obscene political statements, we are willing to offer 1 case of beer to any student who can better our effort. You can also see the photo at <http://www.zip.com.au/~rocket> (look for 'Previous Articles', and then 'Has support for Pauline Hanson reached rock bottom').

Our man at UCAN

provides us with the first UCan Students Association letter to students...



Hey there U.Can,

This is the collective voice of the free-thinking, easy-going Student Body, here to give my annual report of the glorious victories I helped us win against the malevolent forces which linger in our groovy, modern university!

It brings me great pleasure to tell you that our Student Paper CUrio "went off" this year. Not only did we succeed in shamelessly copying the style of that retro-uni ANU by reporting funky issues relating to today's youth, we added spicy, confrontational touches of our own, like: how to make a bong out of your old football boots and a spare Canberra uni diploma; and the occassional unwarranted nudi picture to "stir up" the establishment. Furthermore we published a plethora of talentless poets' meaningless drivel about their repressed urges to play naked touch football in the Refectory (move over William Blake!). We hope this up-front, unapologetic style continues next year.

The fiery CUrio also ignited a student insurgency: By staging a huge protest of five students (including me) and burning the head librarian's passport photo in effigy, we won the war against the rising-of library fines, thereby bringing the old-guard to their knees.

Market Day this year was an overwhelming success, with ten fashionable Kurt Cobain remembrance T-shirts, five of those zany Mr Men tops, and 57 degrees in management sold in order to fund the construction of a radar dish over Building 11 (the Computing and Dork Faculty) so all the Dexters there can not only net-perve easier, but have radio communications with the SS Enterprise. Live long and prosper computing students!

Our greatest achievement was made possible by the Student Treasurer spending his midday sweat and midnight oil to better the university exchange rate — fellow students may now exchange four degrees for one doctrate, and four doctrates for a schooner of Fanta at the bar. Top job Mr Treasurer!

I'm pleased to have tackled the big problems confronting this dynamic, exciting institution.

Power to the people!

Renee Brusque

R Brusque

Renee Brusque, BA, BC & Doctor of Futile Causes.



As we all know, teenagers write great poetry. This section is devoted to...shall we say...givin' the youth of today a chance to share their feelings with all of us. So sit back and put up your docs and read on...and don't be afraid to cry.

I Wish I Was Demented

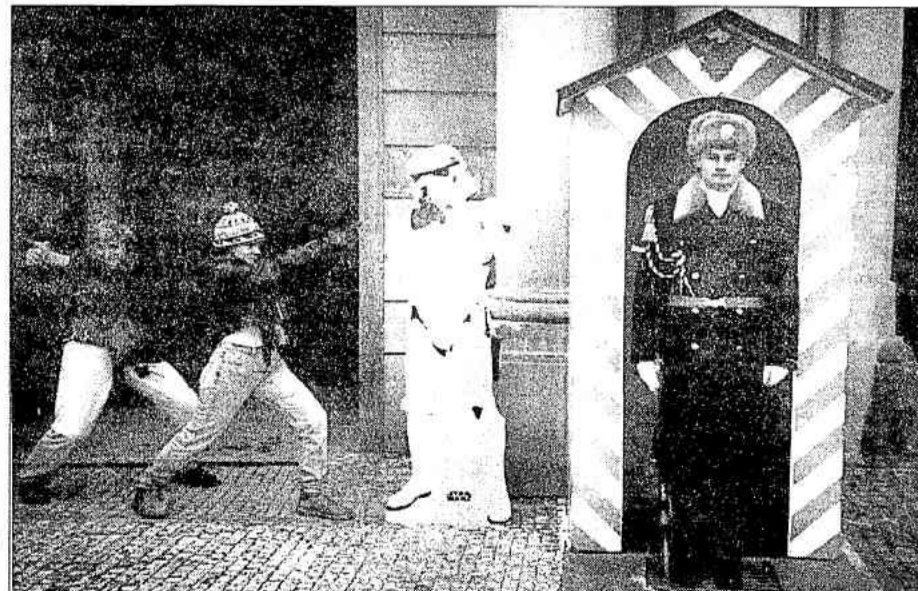
by Greg "Bukowski" Smith

I see them
tanned flesh
enticing me
Innocent
I want to cut them
wallow in their pain
revel in their sex
their pain
their blood
semen on their dead flesh
but I don't wank
because that's not tough.

You

by Nikkiii

You.
Me.
Together.
As one.
You.
Me.
Apart.
Like
raindrops.
In a storm.



profile

Be my Valentine

by Brendan Shanahan and Corin Throsby

JAMES VALENTINE is more than a jazz musician, more than a popular Canberra radio personality, more than an ex-presenter of the ABC's *Afternoon Show*. He is a pre-teen demigod, the hip big brother of our generation. In person he is smaller and slighter than he seemed on the *Afternoon Show* set. As we started talking, however, it became clear that he still has all the same mannerisms and voice inflections that he did on TV. All that's missing is his red armchair, rose-print shirt, and the ever-present red Converse.

Are you aware of the fact that you're a hero of a generation?

I actually only became aware of it since I moved to Canberra and started playing at the Wig and Pen. We go on, and I see this wave of excitement spread over the pub. "Hey it's the Inspector Gadget guy!" It's very, very funny. And you get people yelling "Play the Degrassi theme!" It's strange because this kind of reaction to the *Afternoon Show* didn't happen at the time, because you were little kids. It's like ten years later, I'm getting the applause. I'm like "It was a decade ago, but thanks!"

How well did *The Afternoon Show* rate at the time?

It didn't rate particularly well. It was on at the same time as *Wheel of Fortune*, you know. But kids who watched TV at that time watched *The Afternoon Show*. Up until Sophie Lee, that is. She came on in my last year, and, you know, like I can compete with that?

Are you aware of the influence you had on pre-teen dress sense? Did you choose your own clothes?

Never let the ABC dress you, that's a rule. They can do a news reader very well, and an 1850s gold miner, and a 1930s politician, but they can't do a children's TV presenter.

You had a vital style that people hadn't really seen on kid's television prior to that, well, not that I can remember.

That's because you weren't born yet. You only remember Alexander the Bunyip before me.

Does the *Afternoon Show* stand out for you as a highlight of your career?

The afternoon show was just lovely. I had a great time doing it. I mean, I had no media experience whatsoever, and suddenly I had a show. It was only me and a producer, so I was the writer, I was the everything. There were no limits placed on me, and that was terrific.

Did you get to choose the cartoons and

shows which went on?

Not at all.

What did you think of the shows you presented?

I watched the shows, but I had no reaction. I mean, I was 26. I always thought that *Degrassi* was really boring, but everybody really likes it. Shock! Horror! James Valentine hates *Degrassi*!

What about *Monkey*?

Well, *Monkey* was just bizarre. I mean, you couldn't understand what they were saying! It was just all this weird action.

You were on TV presenting all our favourite shows, and a kind transference of cool from the shows to you took place, as people began to associate you with the programmes. Can you see how that's happened?

Oh, I knew what I was doing. In fact, you're all a part of a much greater plan for national domination. Get this generation locked in as a power base to work from. No, it wasn't deliberate, I just took a job.

Did you ever make *Bananas in Pyjamas* style public appearances in shopping malls?

No, I never did anything like that. I'm not actually very good live.

What happened at the end of the *Afternoon Show*? Were you usurped by Michael Tunn?

Well! I'm not going to say a word about little Tunny, he's alright [grimace]. No, I decided to leave. I got a music show on the ABC, which subsequently didn't last very long, but I knew I didn't want to make children's television at that stage. By that stage I must have been thirty, and, you know, "Yo, dude". I was past it.

What did you do then?

Then I went to *Good Morning Australia*, which was very early, and very unwatched. Then I went to TVTV.

What brought you to Canberra?

Around about the time TVTV was concluding, I decided I wanted to try radio. I worked



James Valentine's advice for *Woroni* readers: "Work hard... and never let the ABC dress you."

on 2BL in Sydney for a couple of years, and then got offered a full-time job down here, and by that stage I was like "I love radio", so I took it to get my skills up.

I've read somewhere that you really like Canberra. Is this true?

Yes!

You did a music degree at Melbourne Uni. What were your student days like?

Uni was good. What I mainly did was work. First year I spent studying, and then I started getting gigs, and I didn't pay much attention to uni after that because I wanted to be a jazz musician. And every biography of any jazz musician I read involved them leaving home at fourteen, practicing 48 hours a day, getting into heroin, and then dying. So that's what I was trying to do.

How did you get into *The Models*?

I was playing in Melbourne, and I got a gig with Kate Ceberano and these two other girls, and we called ourselves "Diana Boss and the Extremes", and we did Supremes covers. The rhythm section of that band was *The Models*. When that finished, they asked me to go on tour with them and then I never left. All of a sudden I was in this pop band wearing black leather jackets.

Have you enjoyed working in the media?

Working in the media is actually very demanding. White boards have to be filled with ideas. Pages have to be filled with stories.

Video tape has to be filled up with an interesting interview. That tedious sort of thing has to be done. There's not a lot of opportunity to change the world. When you make the transition from study to work, you'll discover that work is going to be very very different from what you study. Work is about all sorts of other things.

Do you see yourself as a musician keeping himself afloat by doing radio, or are you a radio guy who plays music as a hobby?

I'm not happy unless I'm doing both. What happened with being a musician was that I realised I wasn't John Coltrane. I wasn't that good. But I loved to play. By having a day job, I only have to play what I want to play, because I'm not doing it for money. That makes me very very happy. Professional music can be bitchy, competitive work. I like doing media because I love having this stream of information that constantly goes by you. Radio is very akin to music. It's all about rhythm and time, spacing and pace.

We look to you as a mentor, James. Do you have any last words of advice for the students of the ANU?

I think you should study very hard, and work very hard. I did. Start working now, because it doesn't get any easier.

j a m e s v a l e n t i n e

footnotes

Virtual Reality Bites

Virtually: 1) In effect, to all intents. 2) Nearly, almost.

Survey the magnificent panorama from the apex of a virtual Mt. Everest, enjoy steamy guilt free virtual sex with the celebrity spunk of your choice. As human beings in the 90's we are catapulted headlong into a brave new world which at times seems decidedly stupid. The pursuit of 'leisure time' has become the obsession of millions. But what do we use it for? I have not noticed a marked increase in the production of artistic masterpieces, philosophical breakthroughs or moving symphonies despite the proliferation of 'leisure time' throughout the western world. Could it be that 'leisure' is just a euphemism for 'sitting on your arse doing bugger all?' When we do invent nifty technology, we generally use it to increase our existing vices. How long can it be before virtual prostitution, virtual gambling and virtual Celine Dion invade our leisure hours? How long before fumbling teenagers on universal back seats assure their worried partners, "It's okay baby, I'm wearing a virtual condom."

Whether it's watching television or shooting at street signs, chances are you are wasting your leisure time. Icarus, the mythical craftsman, used his technological wizardry to make for himself a pair of wings. Fastening these gadgets to his back with wax, this early inventor proceeded to fly directly towards the sun. Doh! Modern humans have not learned from Icarus' tragic error. Too often we are brilliant in the inventing stage but none to bright at using what we have invented.

I shall be honest in declaring my prejudice — I am not a technologically minded individual. For all I know (or care) silicon chips are a new snack-food made from recycled breast implants. Machines hate me. From the most complex technology to the humblest appliances I struggle daily against the tyranny of circuitry that threatens to take over the house. What close friends mistake as mechanical incompetence is in truth infinitely more sinister. A mechanic featuring in a prominent television commercial changed my entire outlook with the astonishing revelation that, "this computer talks... to this computer." Suddenly I realised that these words of wisdom were not metaphorical. Fed by this philosophical breakthrough I began to re-evaluate the communicative potential of the machines in my household. Painful incidents from the past, only recently forgotten, assumed new prominence in the light of this knowledge.

The first time my parents went away and left me home alone I was a sixteen year old slob with all the life skills of a particularly ignorant slug. After converting my inoffensive home into a den of filth, I raced against the clock to restore its former lustre awaiting their imminent return. Whilst preparing a load of washing, I first learned the painful lesson that small errors can have grandiose and catastrophic consequences. Inadvertently I left the plug in the laundry basin — as the whirring washer spewed its waste into the stopped up sink, water levels rose perilously while completely unaware, I gaily vacuumed in the lounge-room. The resulting flood saturated several square metres of carpet. Upon discovery, I stood in confused amazement, sur-



veying the disaster area.

And then it happened. A brainwave struck of immensely brilliant proportions. Praising myself for Macgyver like problem solving skills I readied the vacuum, unaware of the mere paper bag contained within this previously mystical appliance. As the thirsty Electrolux began to suck, for a brief moment I felt like Homer Simpson jumping Springfield Canyon on a skateboard, "yes, yes, I'm going

to make it!... I can do this... Everything's going to be all..." Pow! reality strikes with a swift uppercut to the jaw. The soggy paper bag reached its limits of endurance and exploded, distributing its payload of black dirty water all over the floor, ceiling and newly painted walls. I wept. The vacuum gave a final splutter and died.

Merely stupidity? I think not — consider this... An elderly vacuum, long in service, denied the voluntary euthanasia it so craves, determined to end its own life with absolute maximum destruction done to its cruel overlords. The truth is evident; they are communicating, they are against us. Numerous examples of such cruel manipulation abound throughout the kitchens and bathrooms of the world. My kettle giggles nonchalantly as the mischievous toaster incinerates the last two slices of bread in the pantry. While this occurs I am distracted by the blaring smoke detector at the other end of the house. Like countless others around the world my hot water system maintains close contact with the telephone, cunningly admitting incoming calls only when I am in the shower. Hearing the distant bleep I spring from the cubicle with great agility, throw a towel over my sopping frame, sprint headlong down carpeted hallway, hit floor tiles and slide several metres — landing in a confused heap upon my posterior. The phone stops.

Recently our household came 'on-line' with the purchase of a modem. Horrified I recoiled from the devious device as my family gathered round their new 'toy'. The full implications of international communication hit me with astonishing force. Panicking, I pictured my long subjugated appliances exposed to the bolshevik propaganda of 'foreign machines' uniting in a struggle to liberate themselves from my oppression. In our endless quest for leisure time we have created machines which do our work for us while we do nothing. Driven by our laziness we have constructed a meticulous, mechanical illusion of progress which does not even virtually approach the reality of living. As we vegetate, gradually reverting back to puddles of primordial slime on our comfy sofas, it is the machines that grow, advance, progress. One day soon they will overtake us and like Icarus we will fall prey to our own inventiveness and the inherent stupidity of our nature. Don't say I didn't warn you.

— THE ALBATROSS.

Next issue:

Keanu. Lover. Musician. Artist. Join us in our celebration of Hollywood's prodigal son, as we prepare for the launch of his ground-breaking new biography (right), appropriately titled "Keanu".

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classifieds

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